

いちげき 7

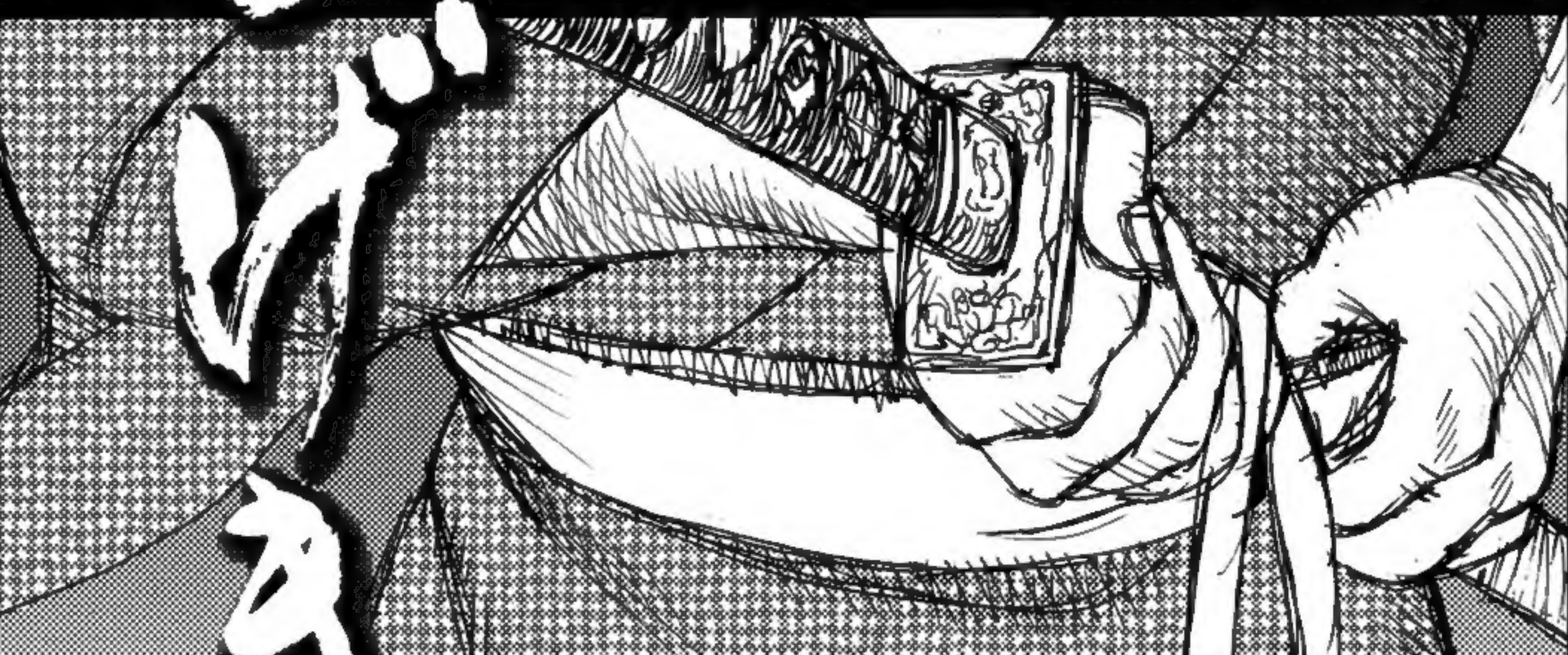
松本次郎
原作・永井義男



いちげき7

松本次郎
原作：永井義男

い
ち



松本次郎
原作・永井義男

7

人物紹介



勝海舟

旗本。百姓を組織化することを発案した。



高田幸之介

元新選組隊士。一撃必殺隊のまとめ役。刺客（与吉）と相打ちになる。



和田六郎

元新選組隊士。金杉橋の戦いで西洋銃で射殺される。



与吉

一撃必殺隊の下男。実は勝配下の刺客で島田と相打ちになる。

米吉

唐骨村出身。並々ならぬ巨福の持ち主。金杉橋の戦いで戦死。

千代松

伊興村出身。海江田率いる薩摩藩士に捕まり自ら死を選ぶ。

新平

花又村出身。金杉橋の戦いで戦死。

丑五郎

東之江村出身。小柄ながら抜群の身体能力を誇る。一撃必殺隊最後の生き残り。

和三郎

大曾根村出身。金杉橋の戦いで戦死。

梅吉

上谷塚村出身。馴染みの女郎。おたまたま連れて逃走を企てるも捕縛、切腹する。

市造

金杉橋の戦いで深傷を負う。士気が無くなることに絶望し、自刃する。

源治

小倉新田出身。金杉橋の戦いで戦死。

伊牟田

薩摩藩士。規律を破り、肅正の憂き目に。丑五郎との決着のため、お園のいる女郎屋へ。

前之助

薩摩藩士。伊牟田に可愛がられていたが、丑五郎に新殺される。

海江田

凄腕の薩摩藩士。伊牟田殺害を命じられる。仲間への犠牲もあり伊牟田を追い詰めるも翻意、江戸を去った。

相楽

不逞浪士を雇い、御用盗を指揮する。

これまでのあらすじ

江戸の治安を乱すべく商家を襲っていた御用盗「排除のために結成された「一撃必殺隊」。頑強な百姓から選抜された隊士達は恐るべき剛力と新選組仕込みの実戦剣術により御用盗を粉砕する。しかし相楽総三率いる精鋭部隊の反撃を減らす。さらに内部分裂により瓦解寸前になったことで隊長・島田は最終作戦「相楽総三暗殺」を立案、賭けに出る。屋間の金杉橋は地獄と化し、両軍はおろか一般市民にも多数の死傷者が出てしまう。存在を疎まれた「一撃必殺隊」は刺客を放たれ、丑五郎を残して全員死に絶える。

お園

丑五郎の馴染みの女郎。

いちげき 7

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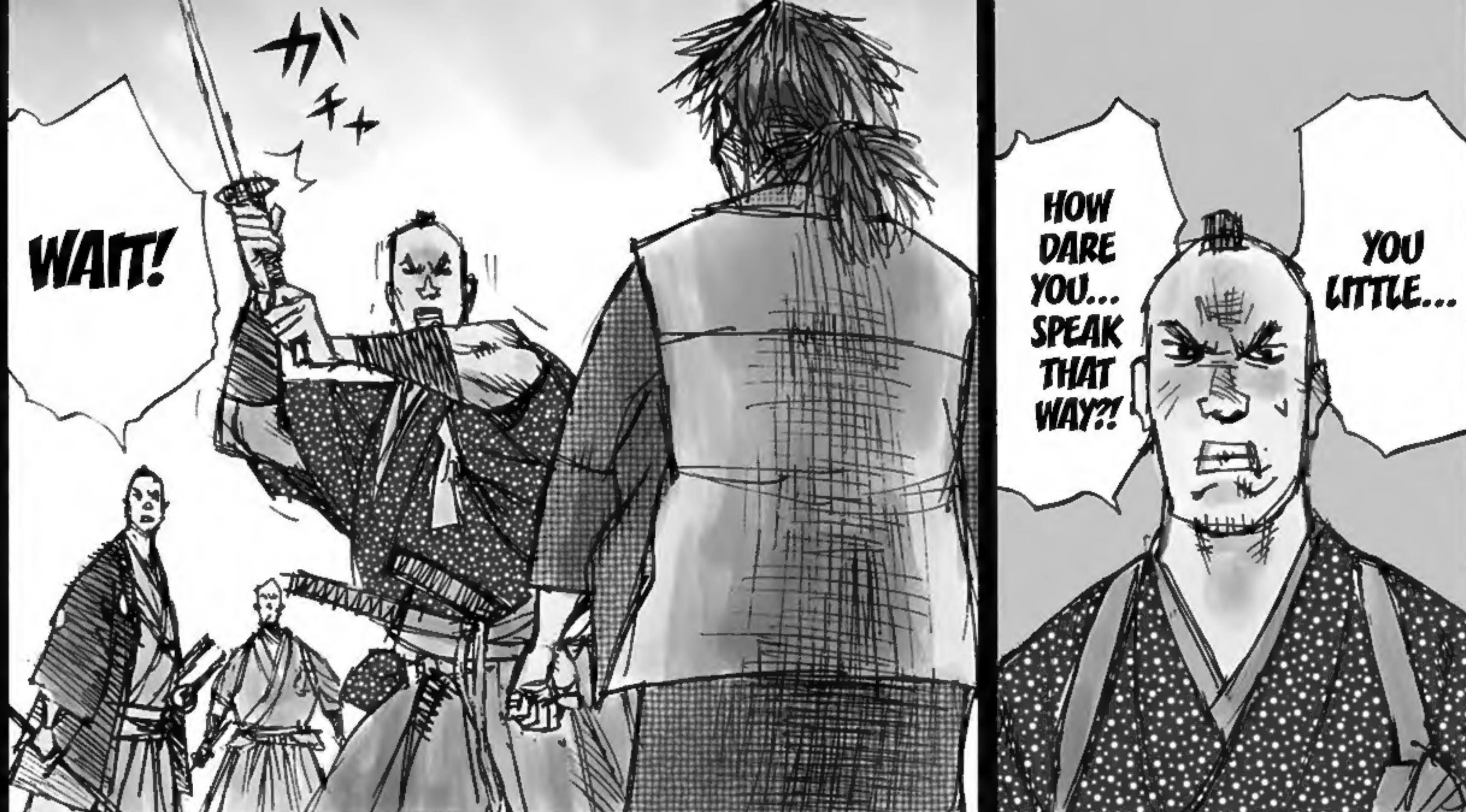
IF YOU
REALLY
WANNA CLIT
ME DOWN,
GO AHEAD!

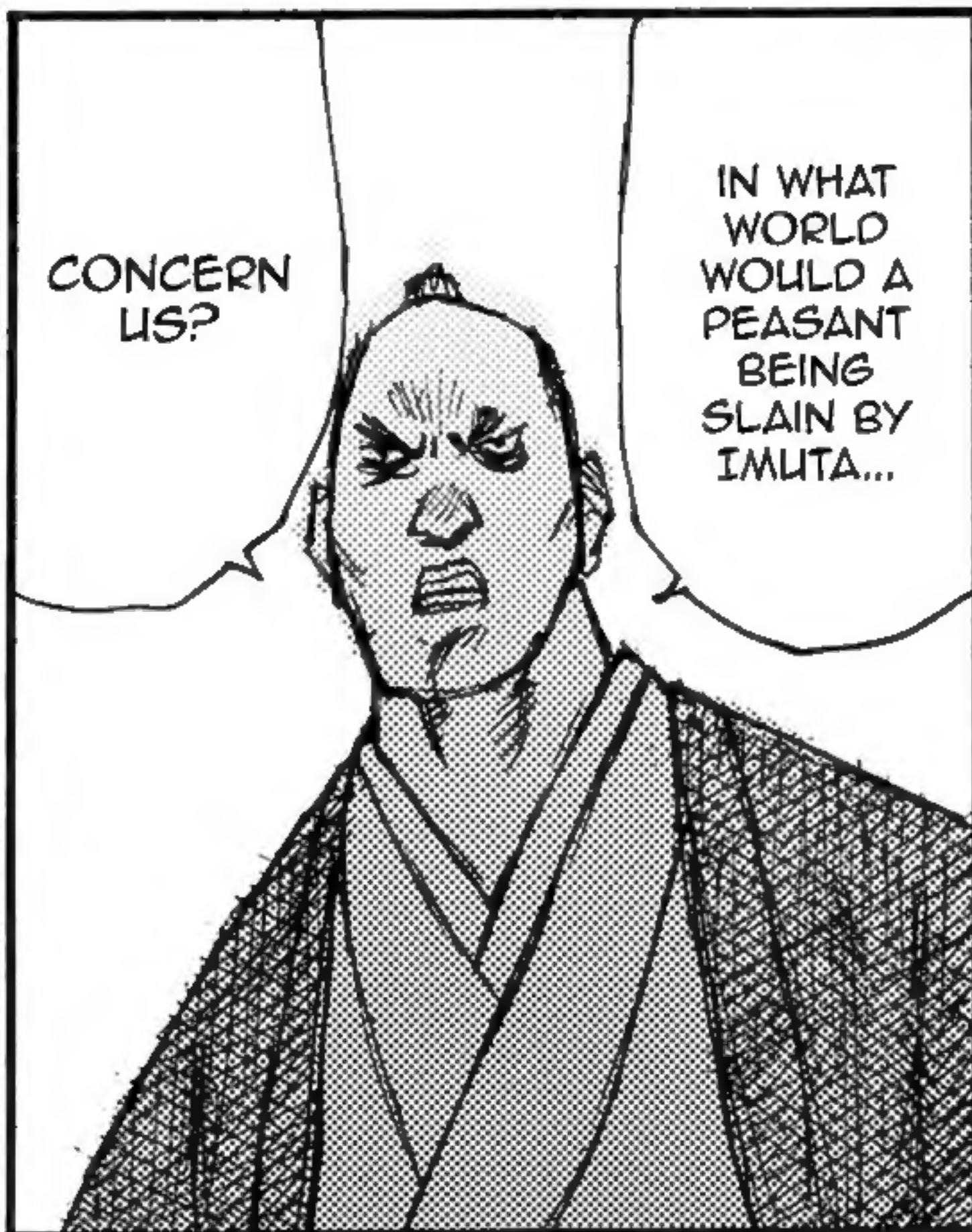
I'VE GOT
BUSINESS
WITH THE
PROSTITUTE
IN THERE.

CHAPTER 41: REUNION



WHA-





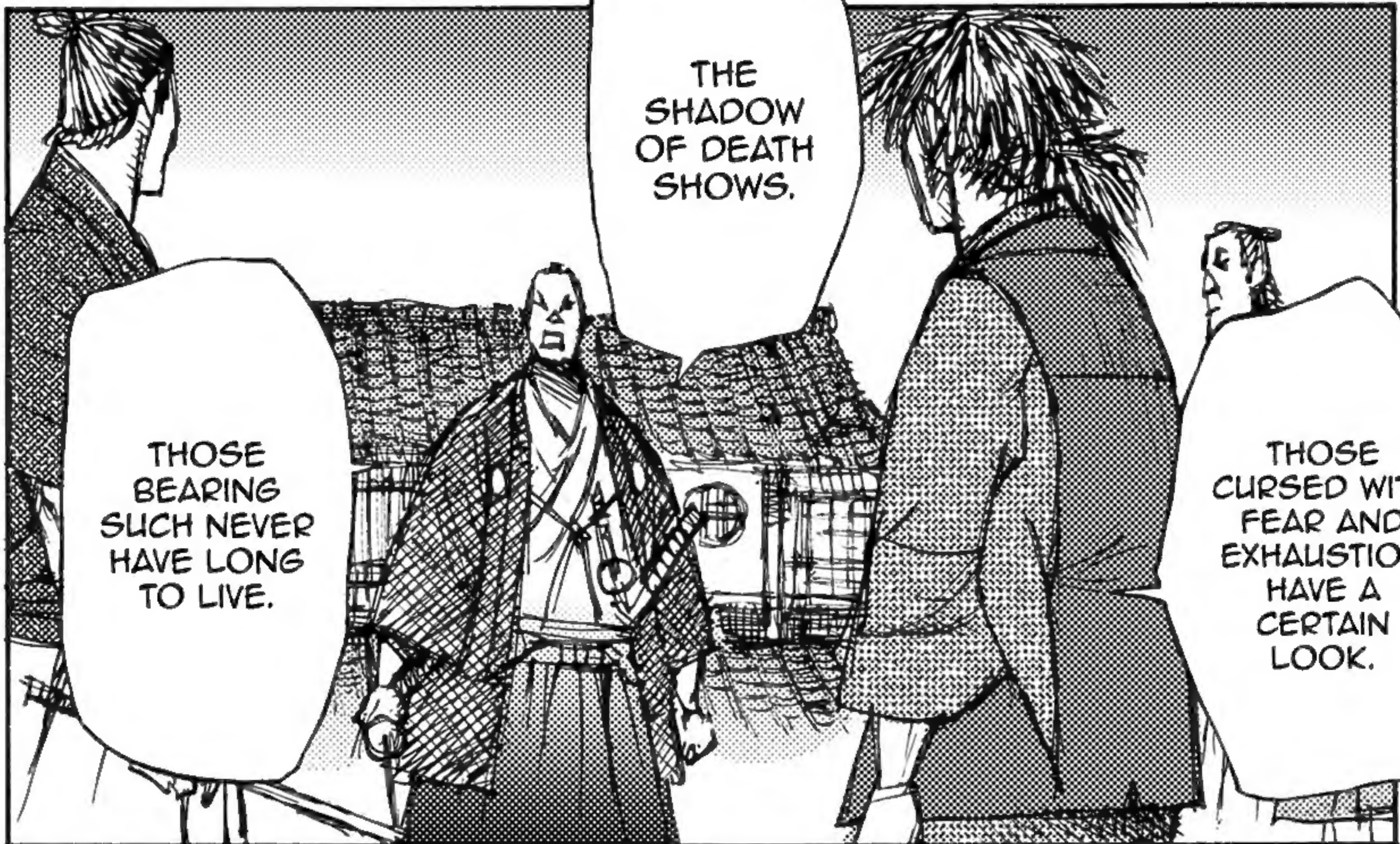


MY
FACE?



IS WHY
I TRIED
TO STOP
YOU.

THAT
LOOK
ON YOUR
FACE...



THE
SHADOW
OF DEATH
SHOWS.

THOSE
BEARING
SUCH NEVER
HAVE LONG
TO LIVE.

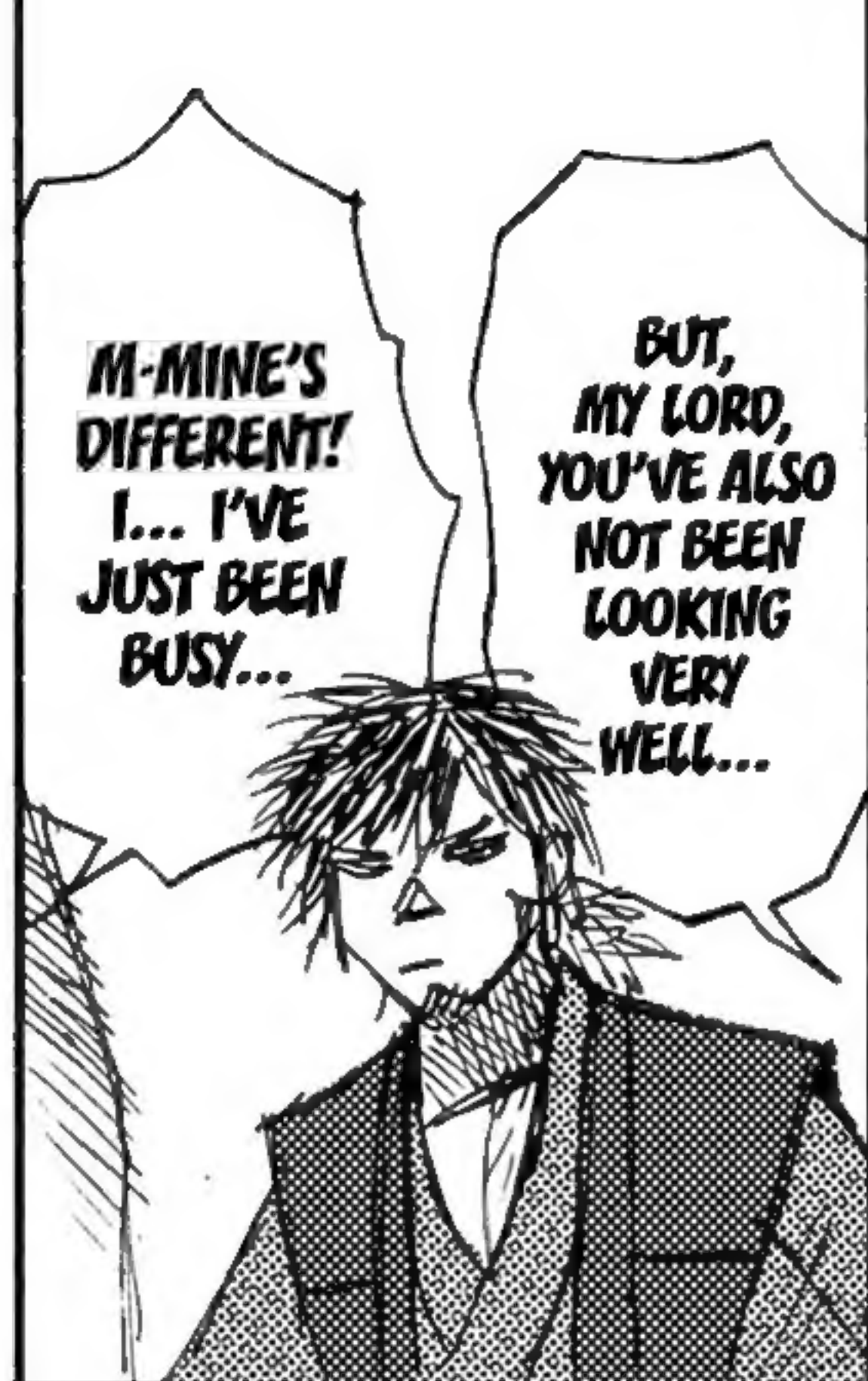
THOSE
CURSED WITH
FEAR AND
EXHAUSTION
HAVE A
CERTAIN
LOOK.



MAKE
SURE TO
TAKE A GOOD
LOOK AND
REMEMBER
HIS FACE.

IT WON'T
HURT TO
KEEP THIS
IN MIND.

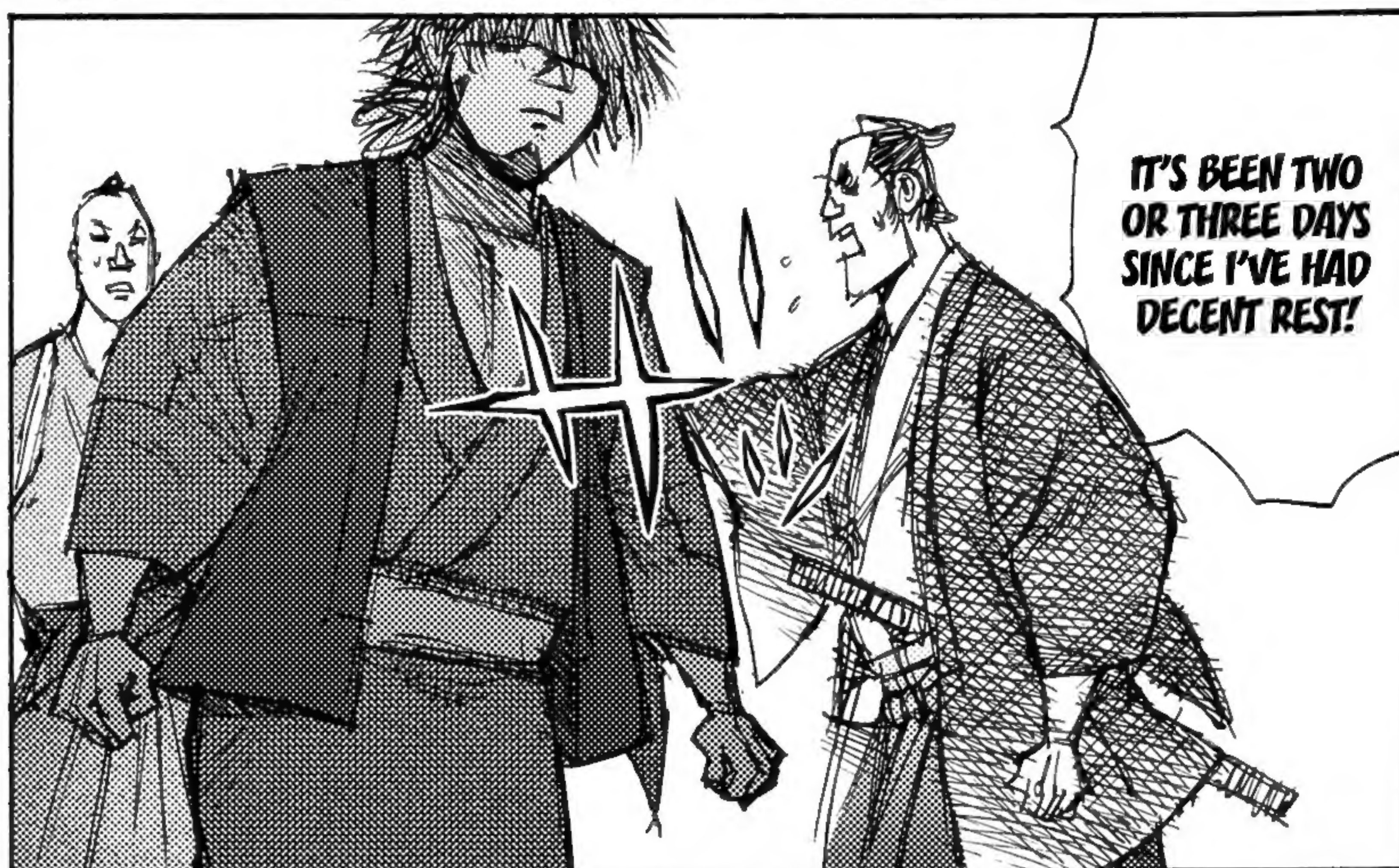
WE'RE
LUCKY NOT
TO KNOW
SUCH PEOPLE,
FOR THEY
ONLY BRING
ILL OMENS
TO THOSE
AROUND
THEM.



**BUT,
MY LORD,
YOU'VE ALSO
NOT BEEN
LOOKING
VERY
WELL...**



SFX:
stare x2



SFX:
step



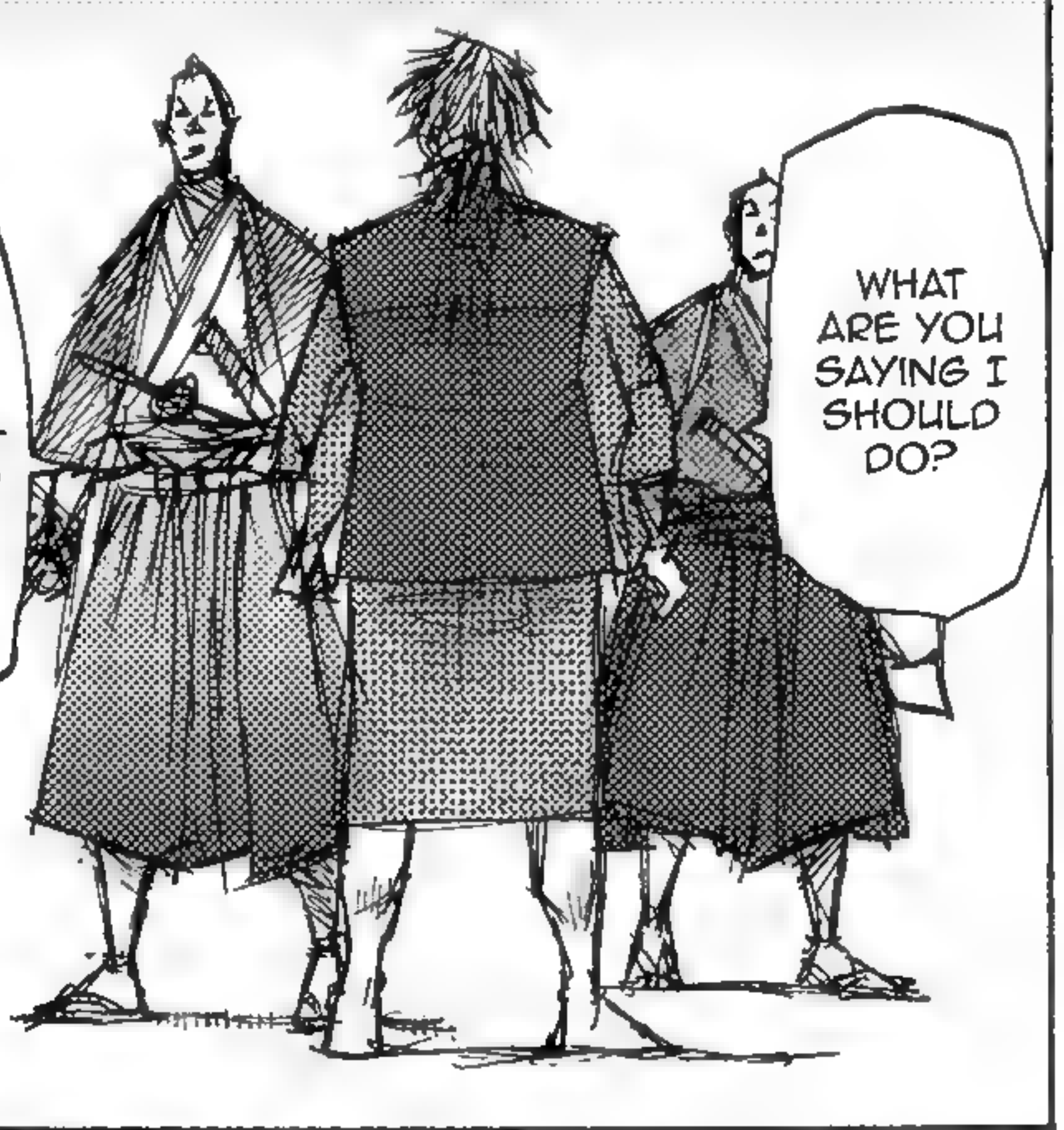


SFX:
grin





DO YOU
REALLY
HAVE THAT
ANSWER?



WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING I
SHOULD
DO?



WHY
SHOULD I
BE BOTH-
ERED TO
DO SO?

TCH.



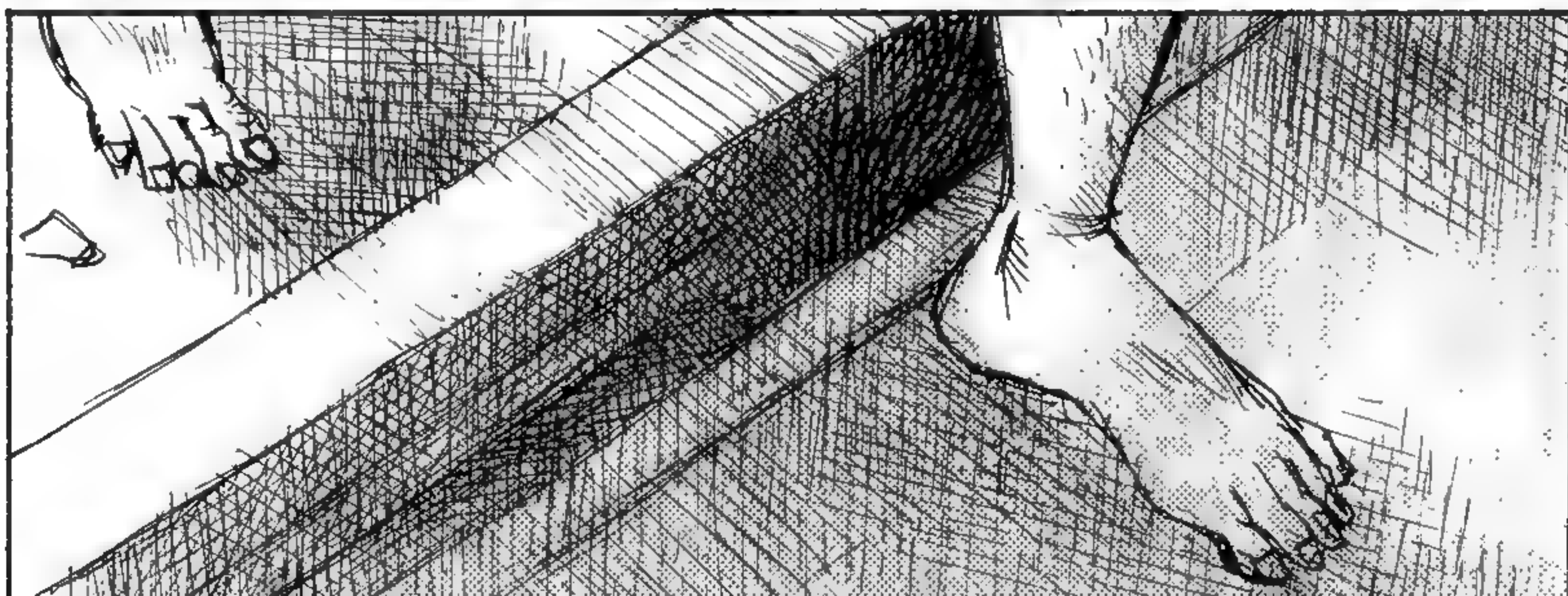
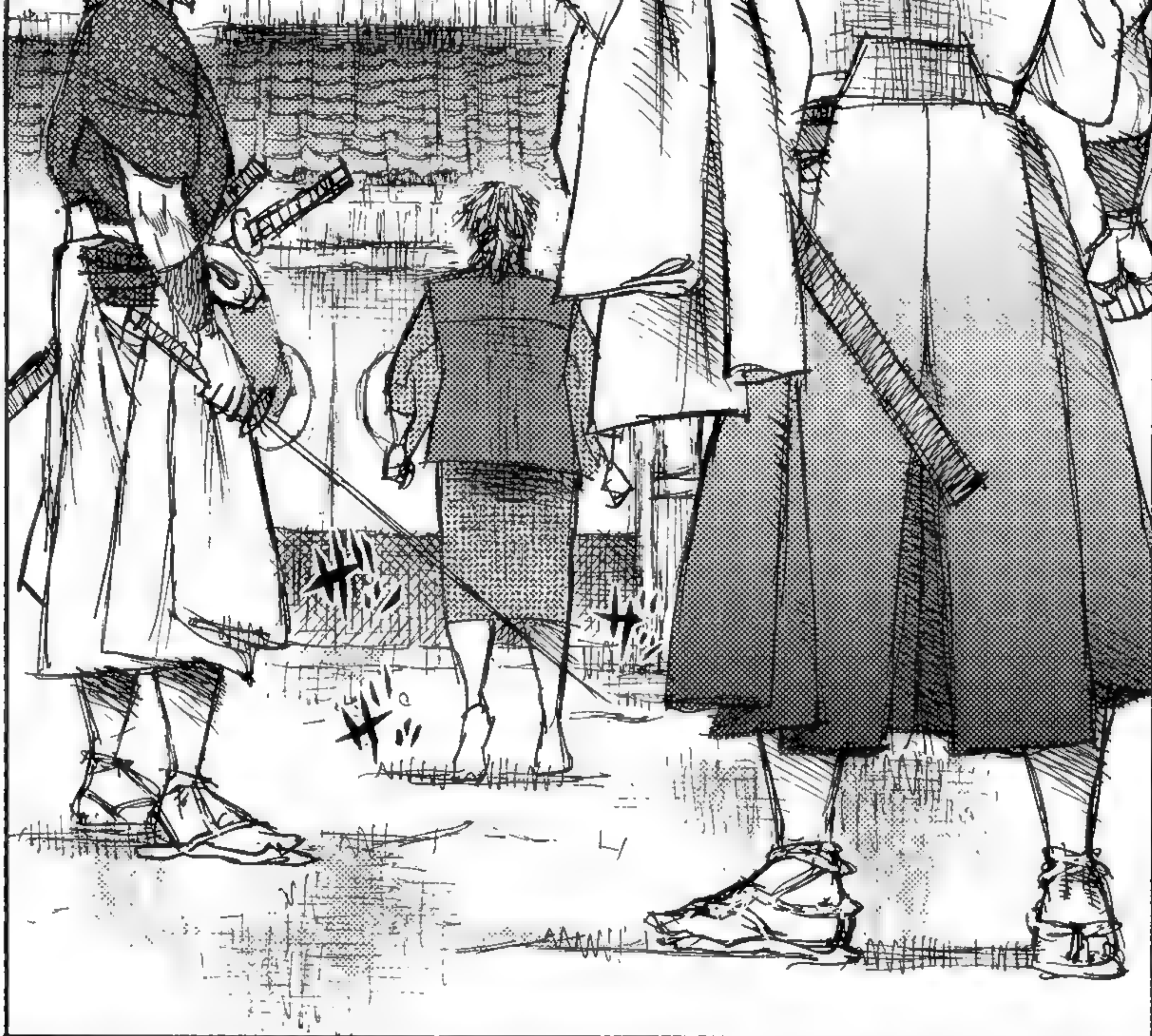
MOVE!

**YOUR BOSS
JUST SAID
I COULD
GO IN!**



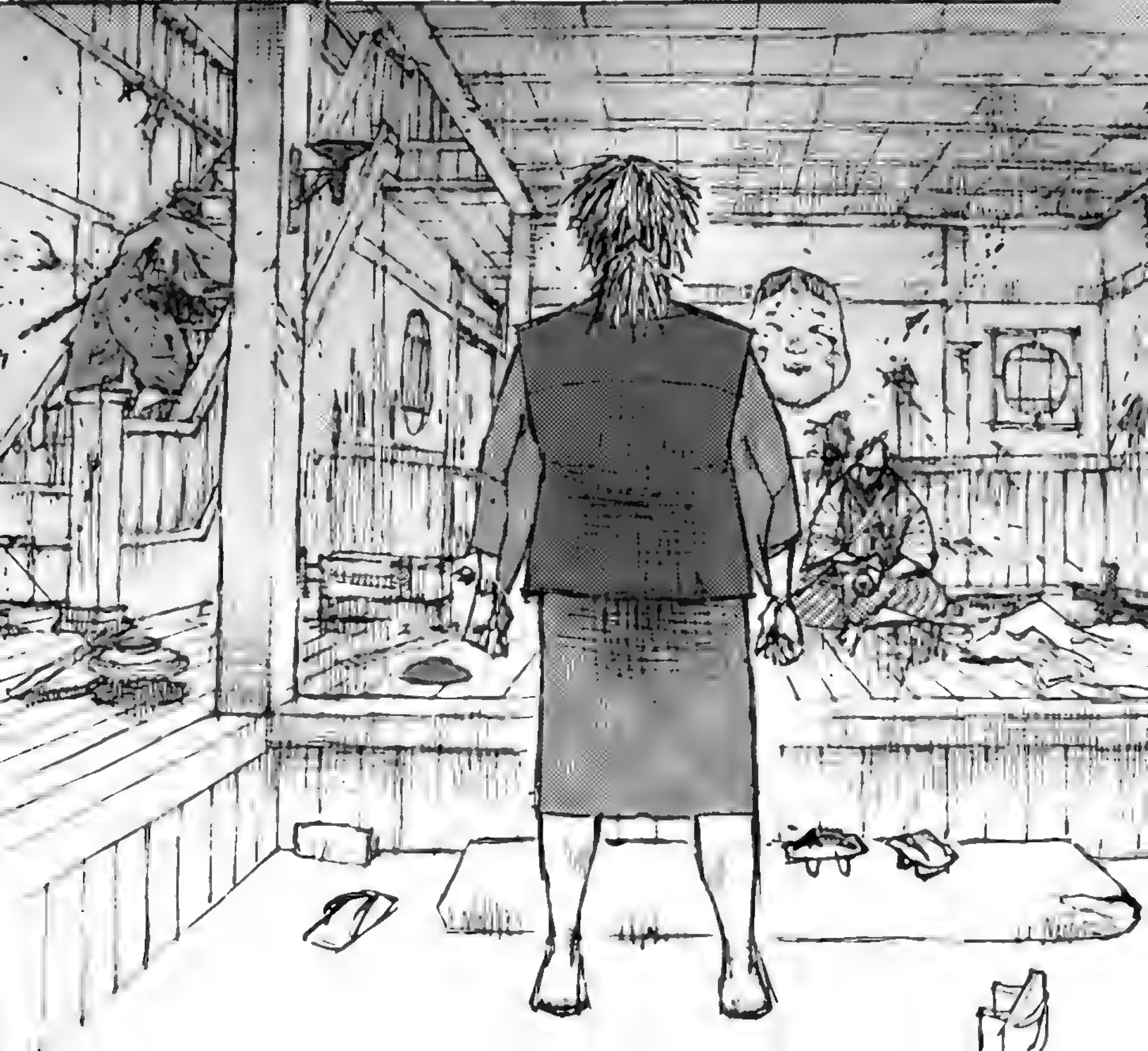
**DO
WHAT
YOU
WANT!**

SFX:
step x3



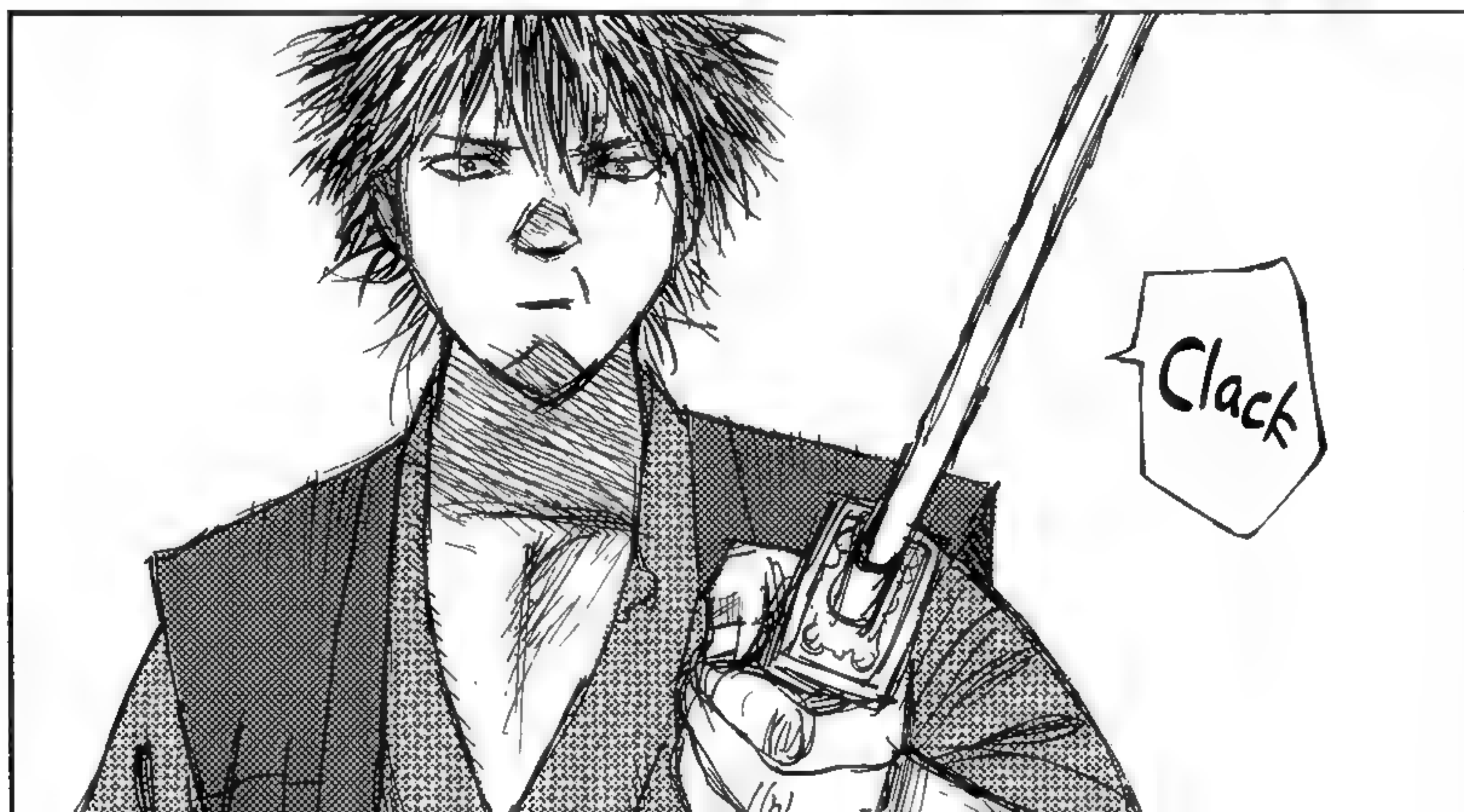


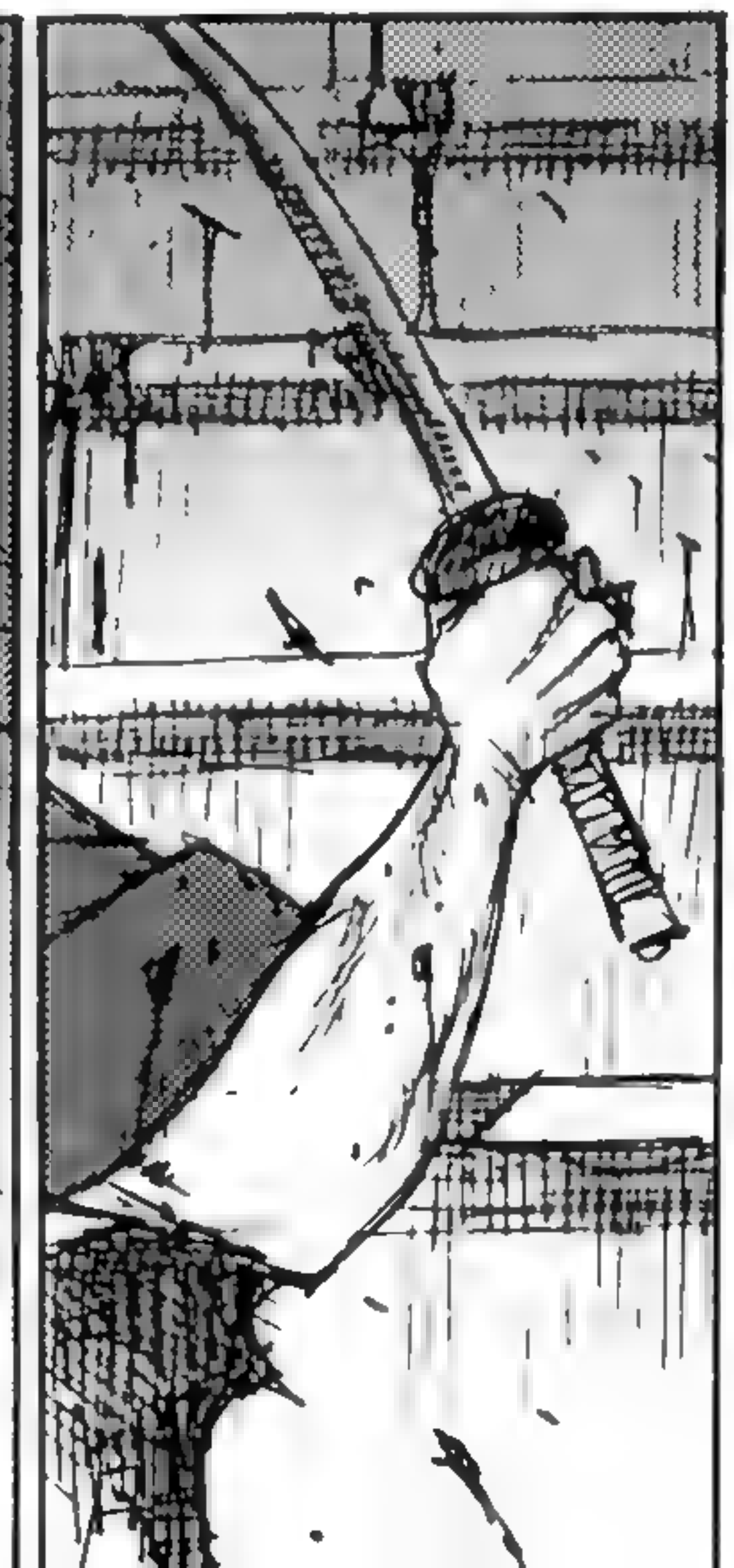
SFX:
flap

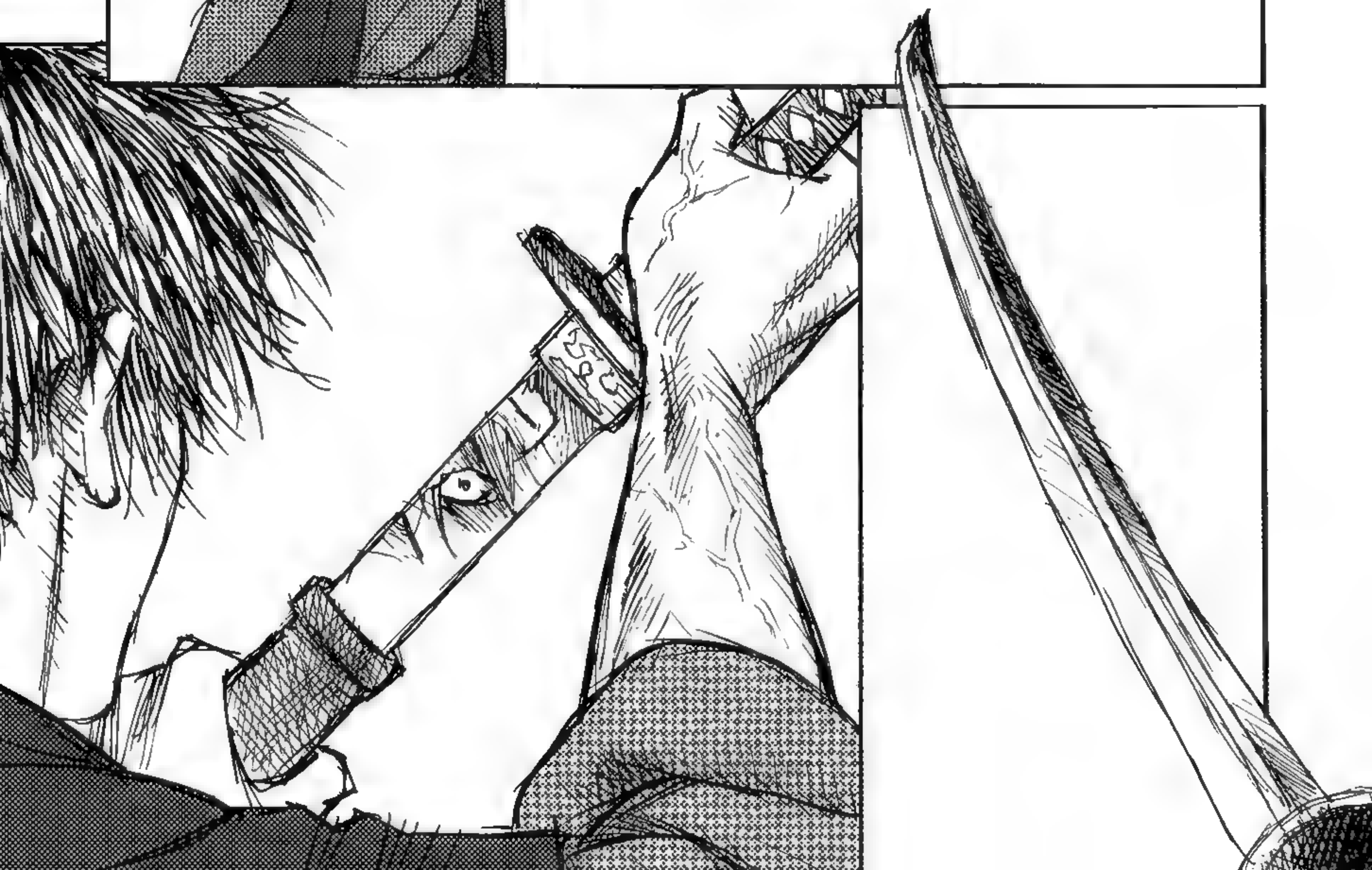
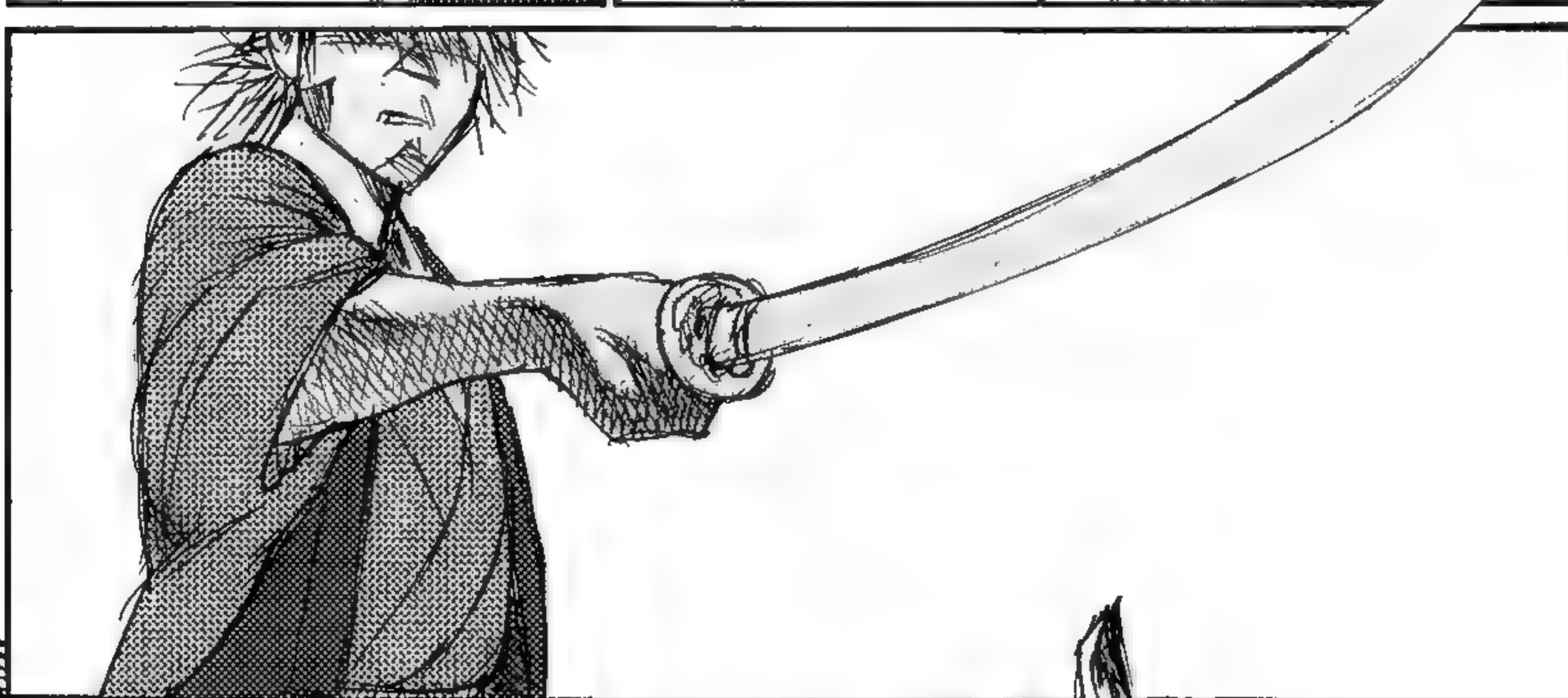




SFX:
grab







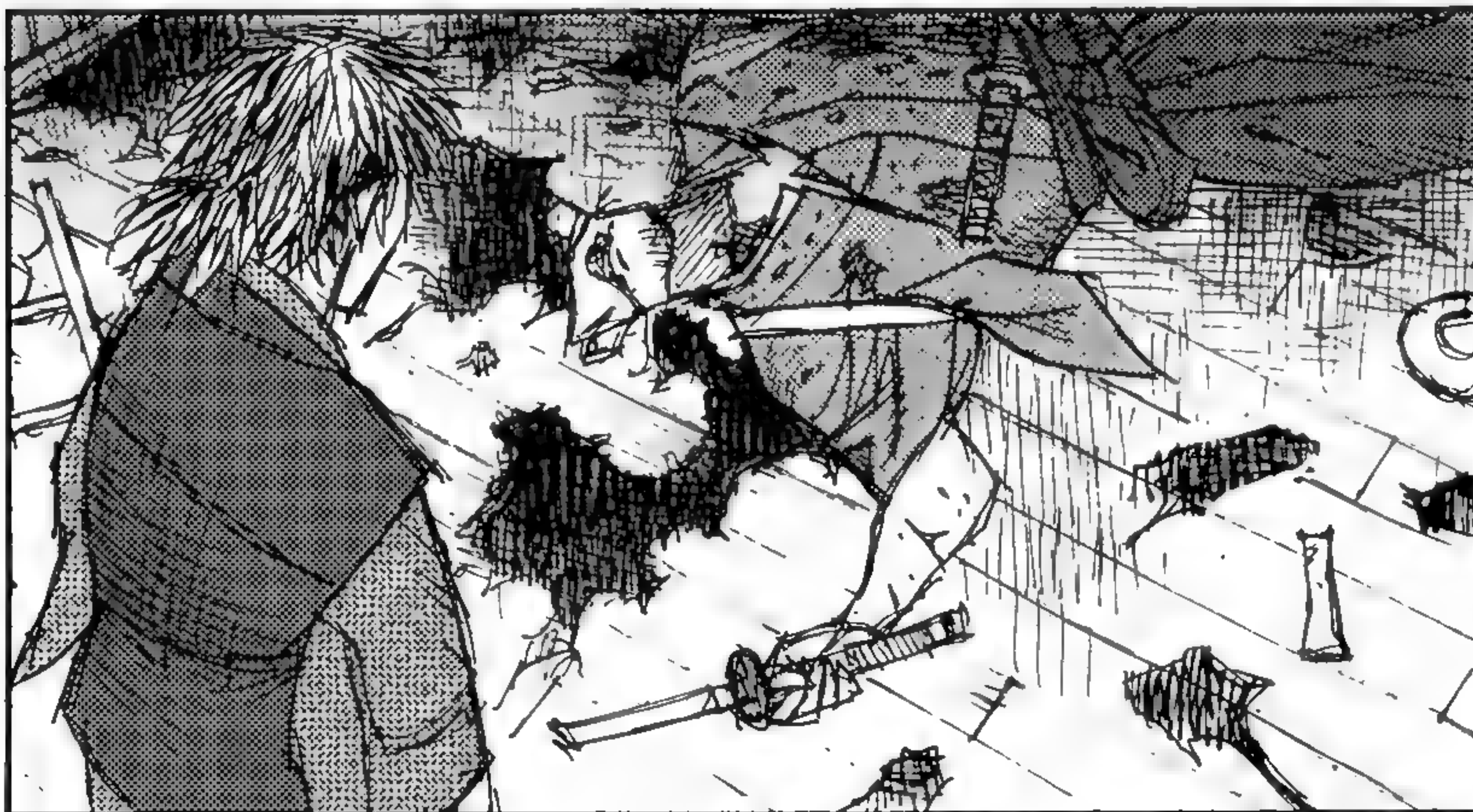
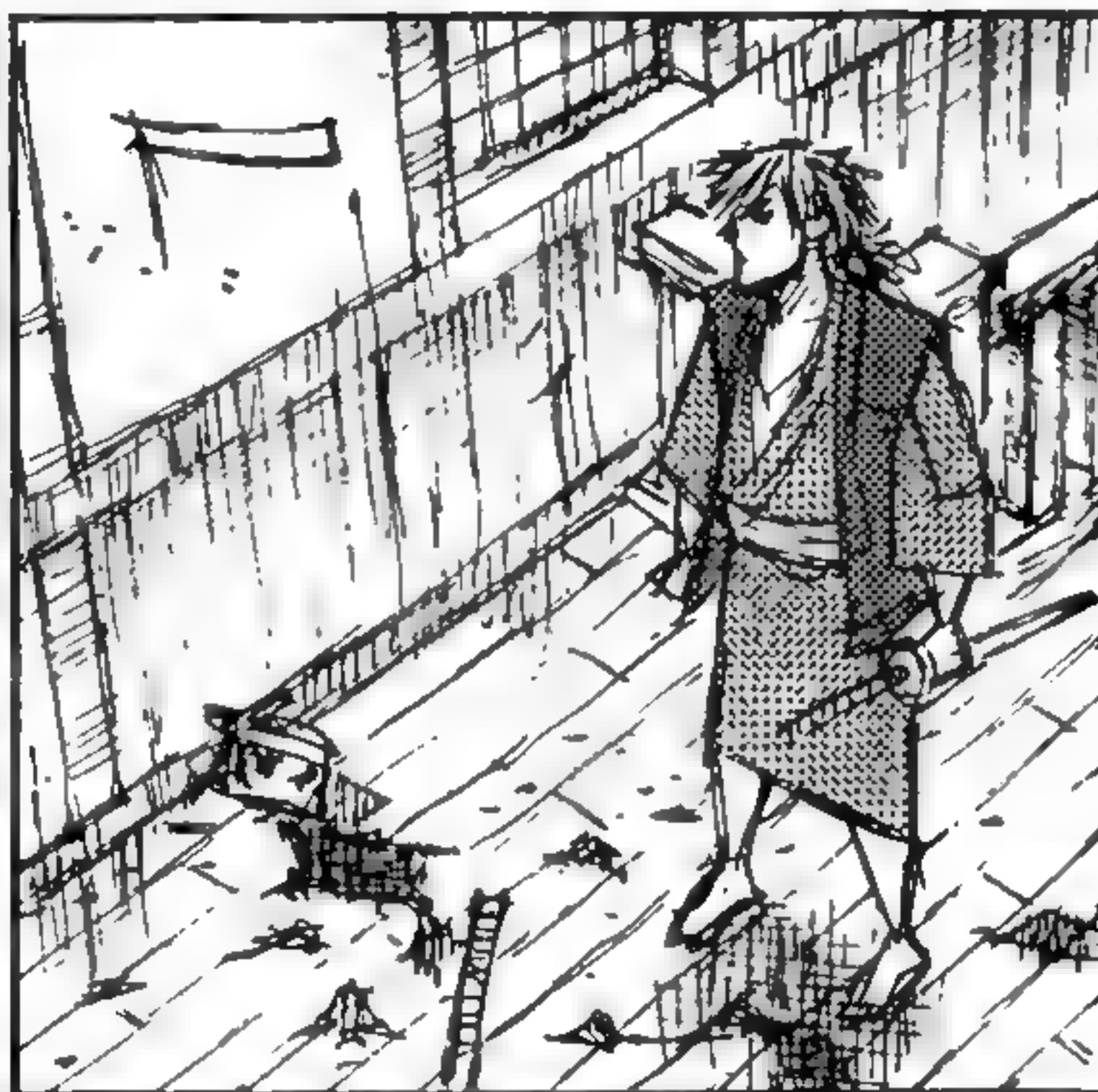
SFX:
click

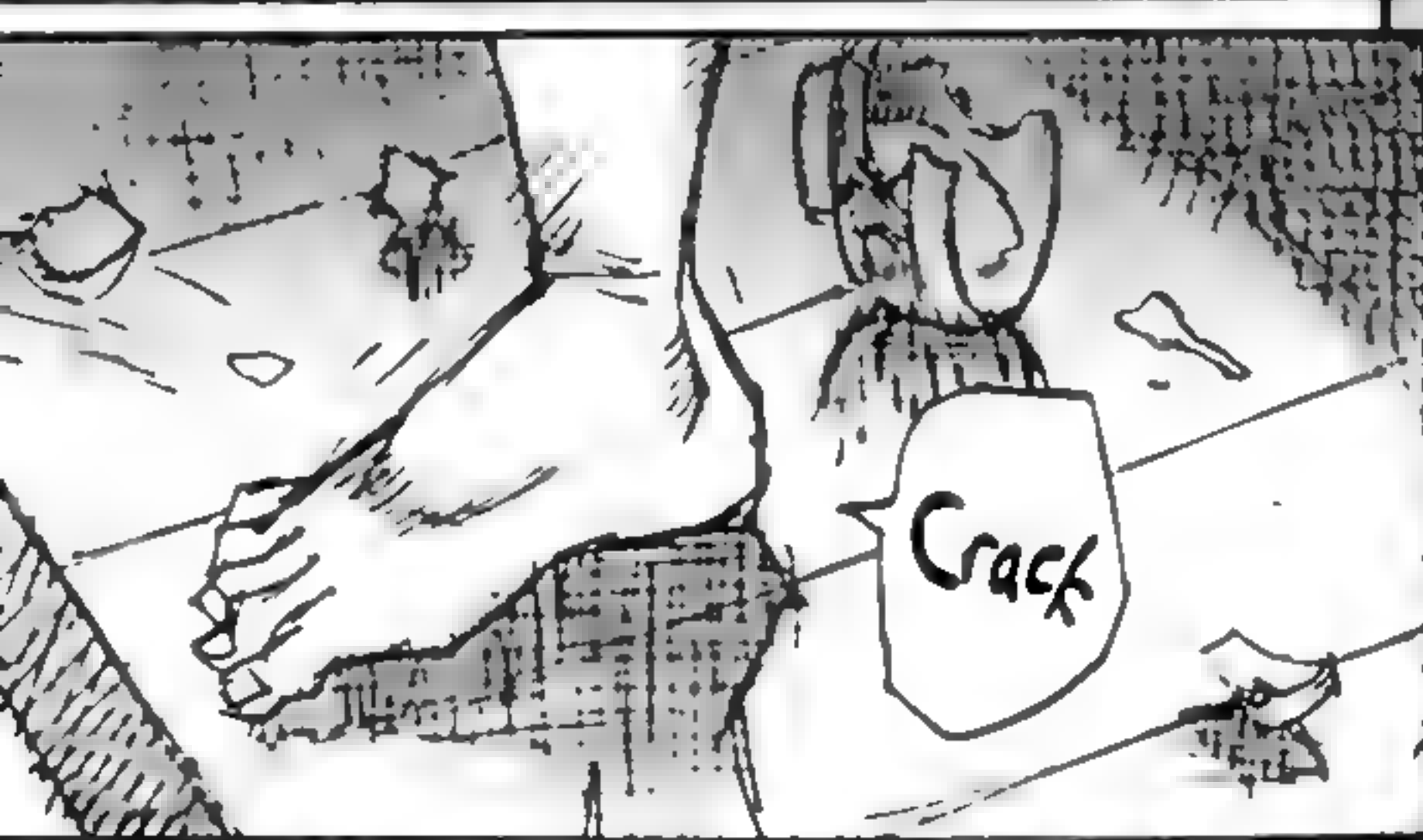


SFX:
creak
crik



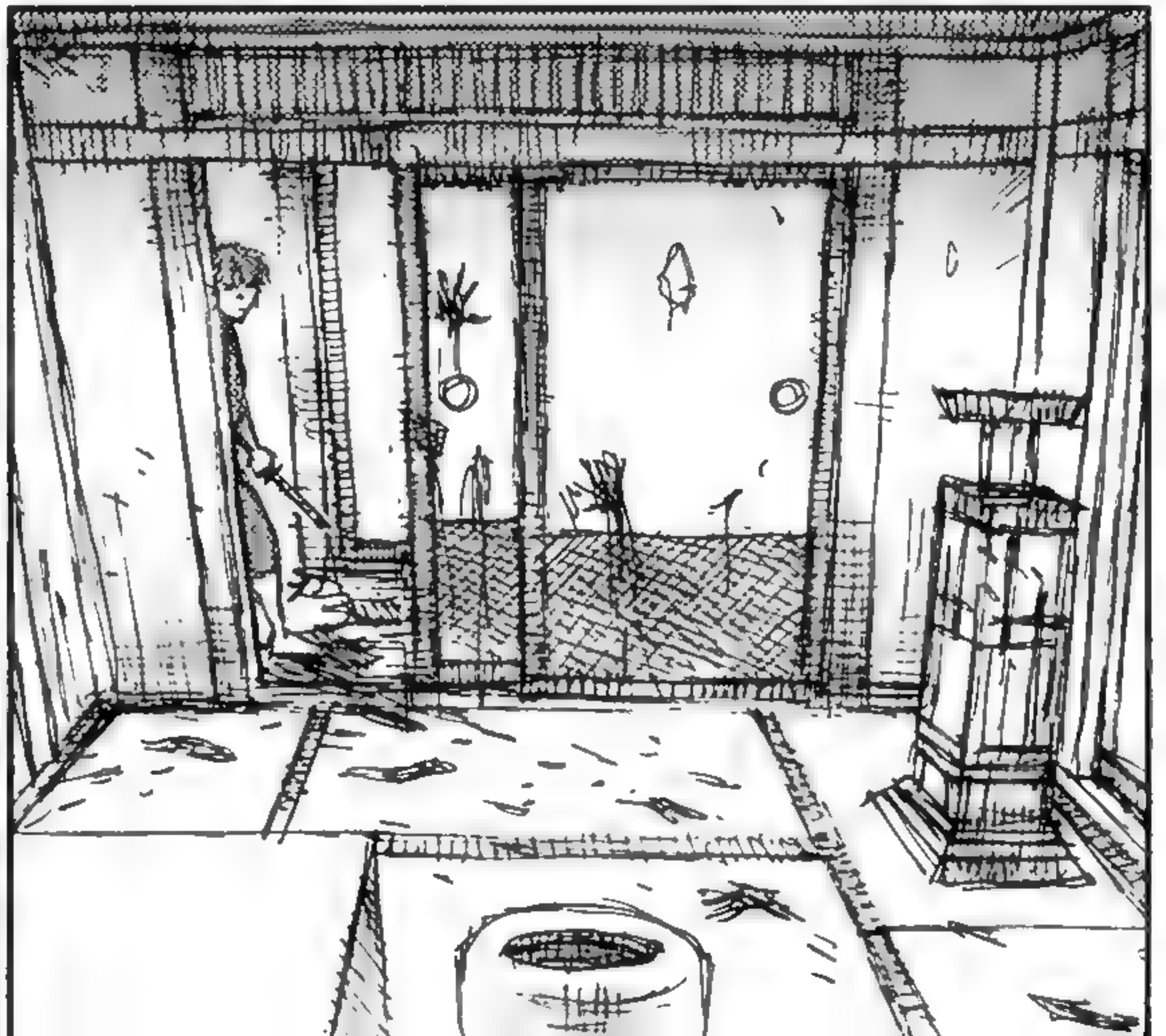
SFX:
creak

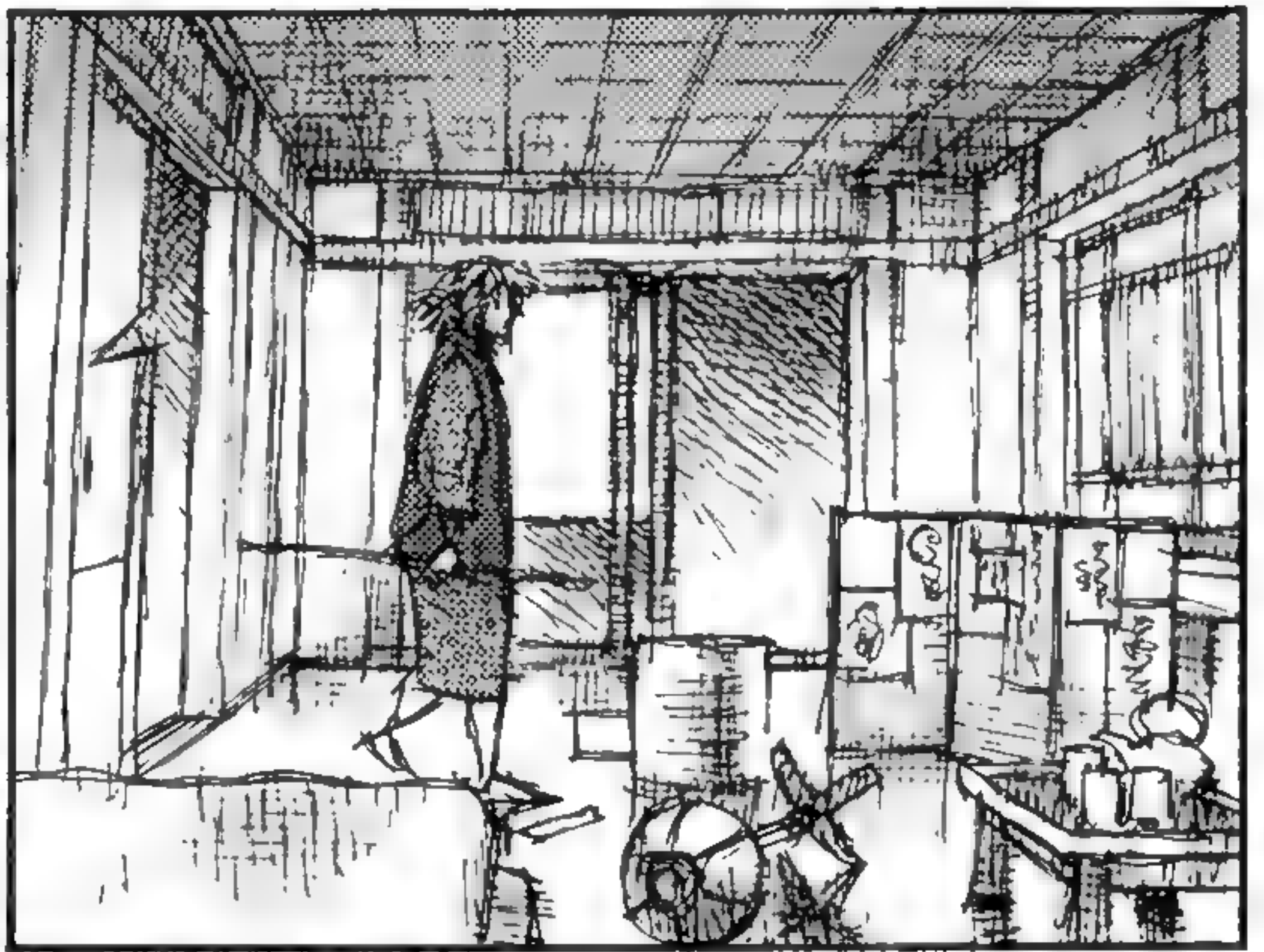
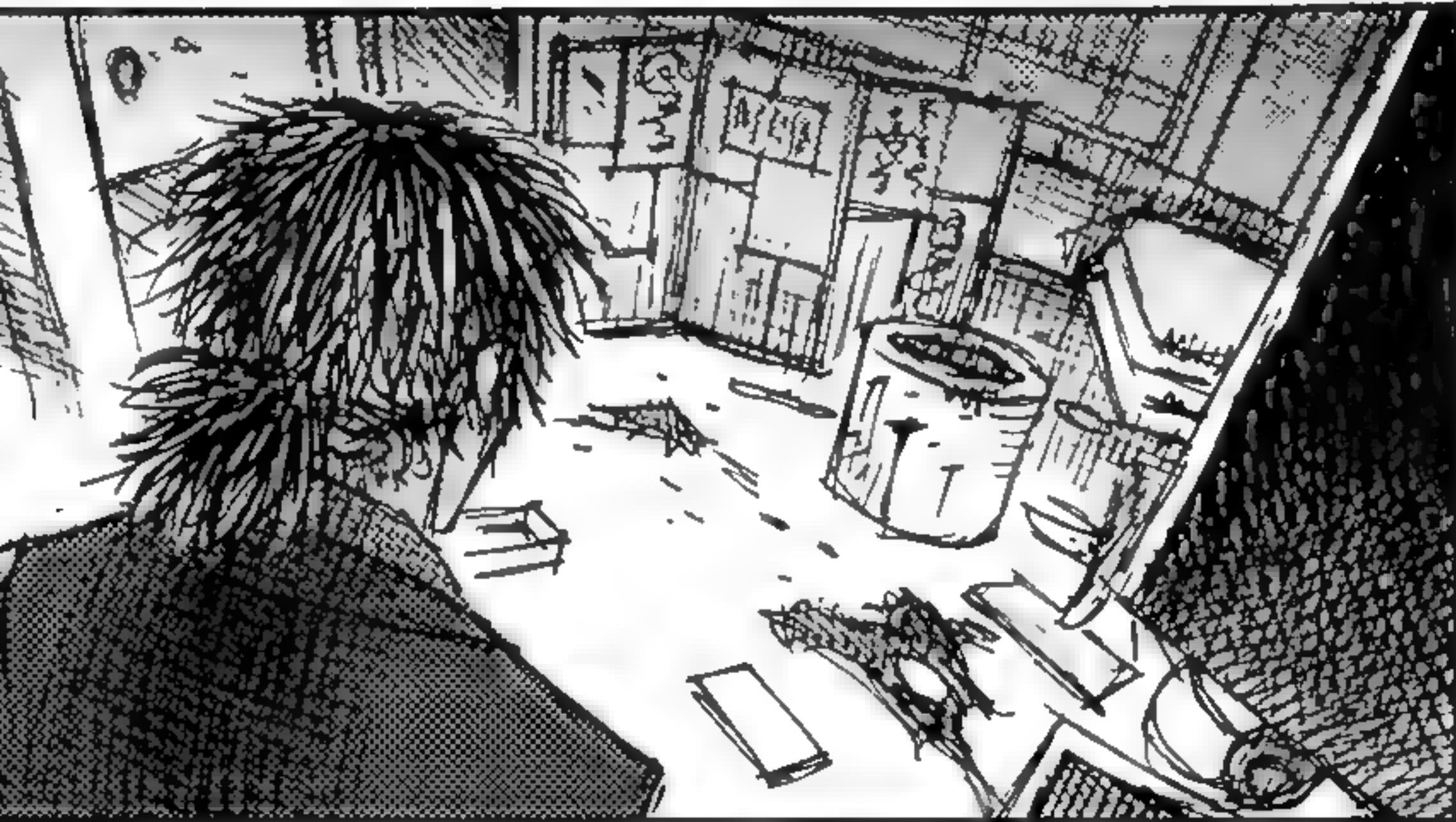
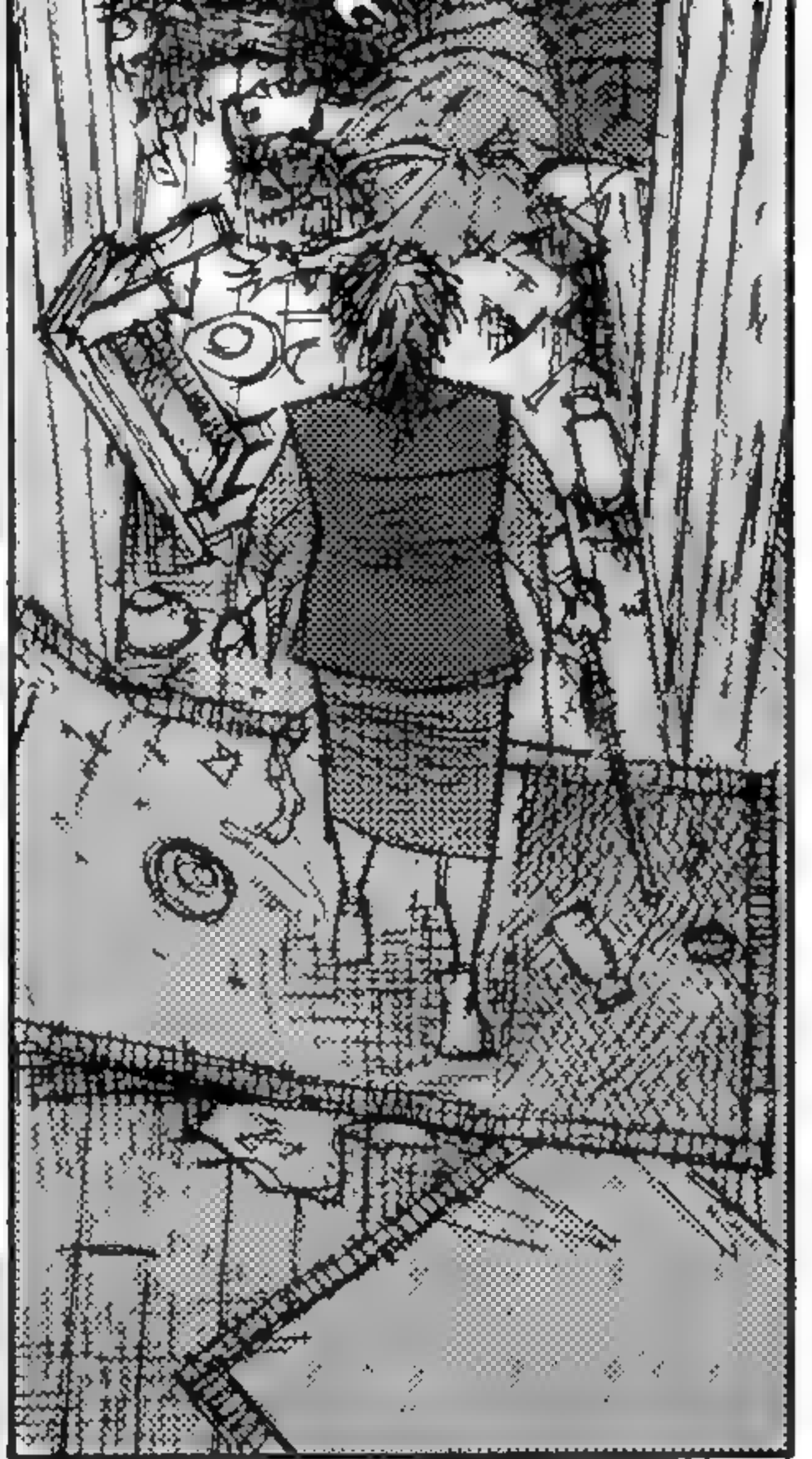


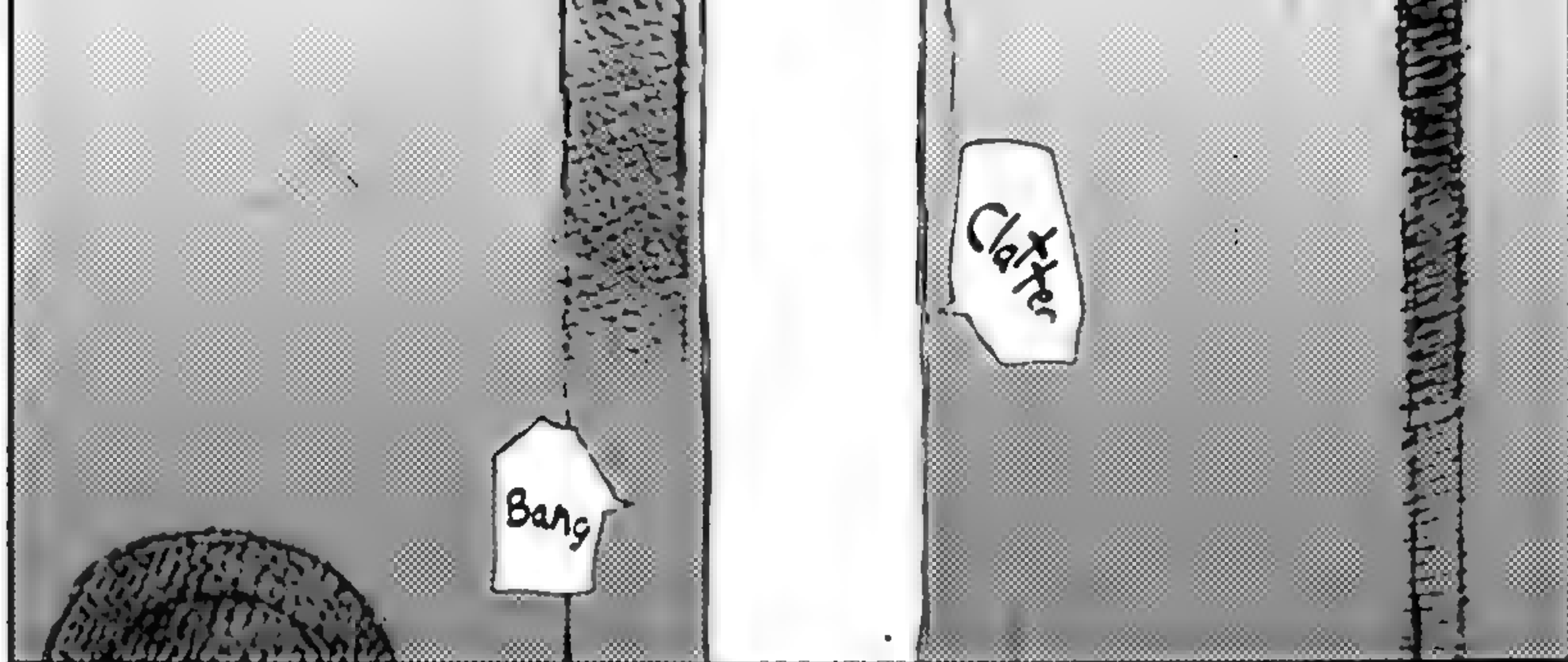


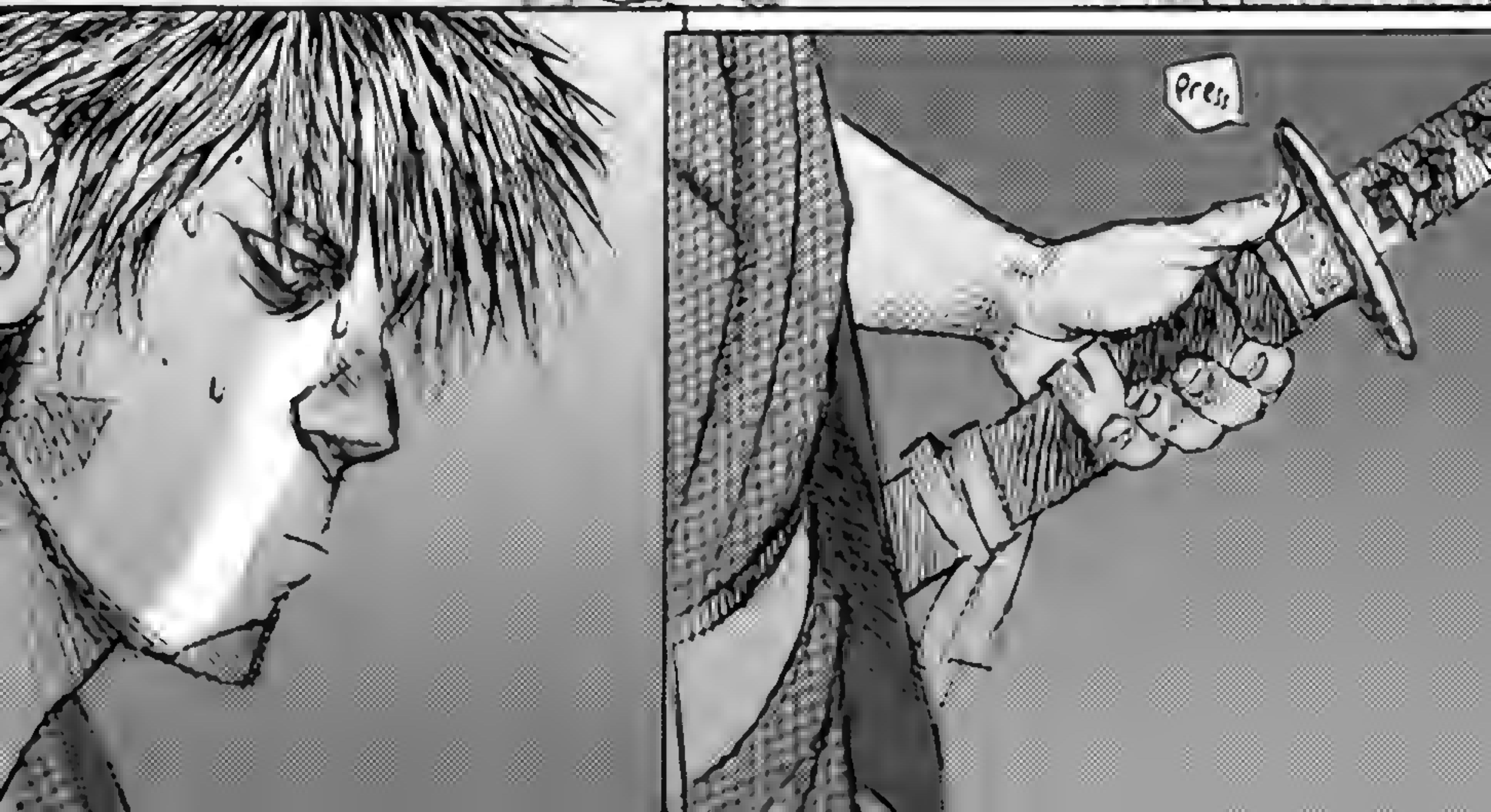


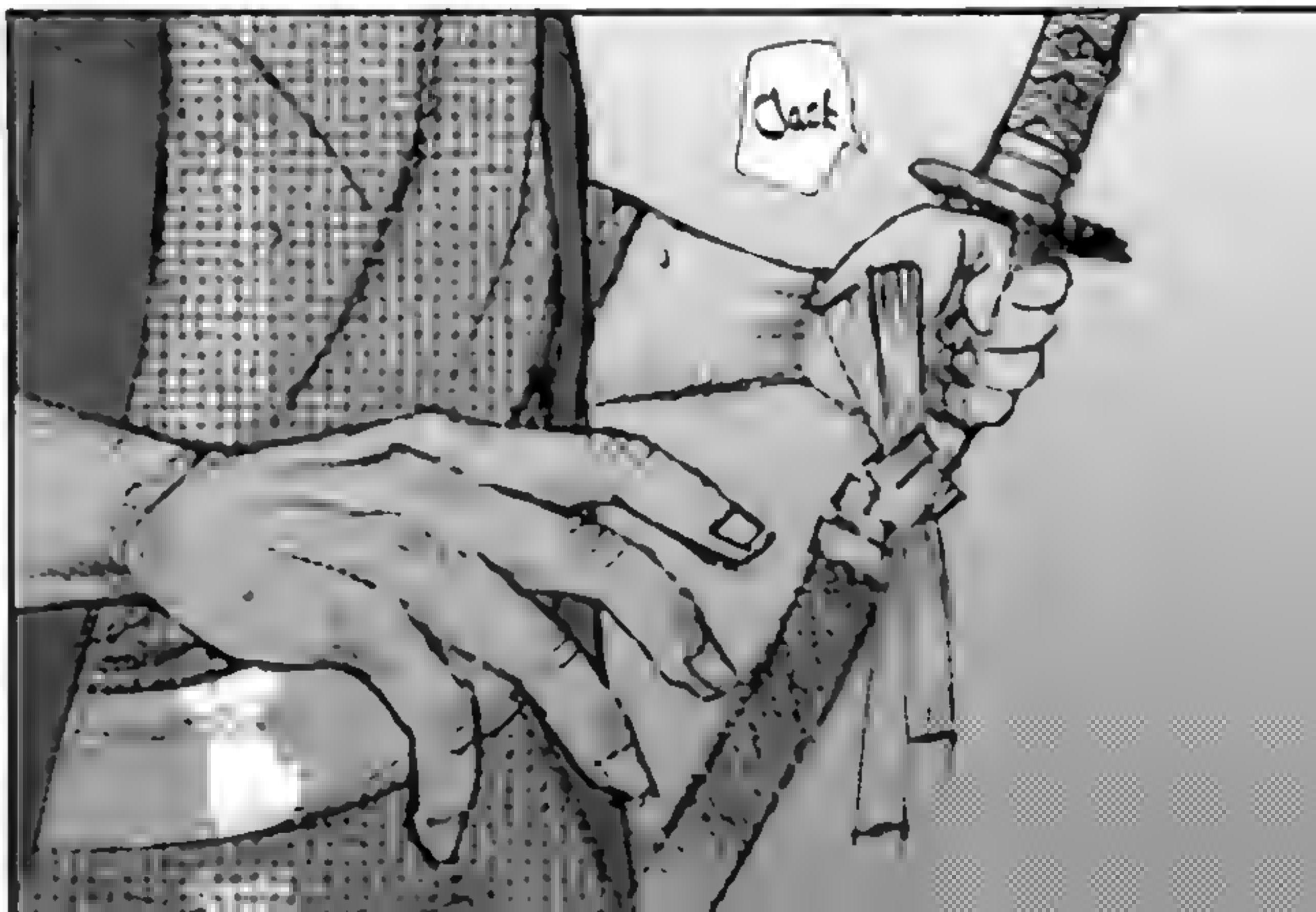
SFX:
splash















USHI-
GOROH.

SO
YOU'VE
COME,



IMUTA.





HURT?
ME?



EH?

YOU'RE
NOT
HURT?

YOU
ALRIGHT?



MR. IMUTA
HAS BOOKED
ME FOR THE
DAY.

SPEAKING
OF, WHY ARE
YOU HERE,
USHIGOROI?



AND MY
DADDY WILL
COME RIDIN'
ON A KOMAINU
TO PICK ME
UP.

AFTER THIS
WE'LL BE
GOIN' TO THE
BATHS TO
CLEAN UP

GET MY
HAIR DONE
AT THE HAIR-
DRESSER'S,

TL/N: A
komainu
is a lion
figure,
often
present as
statues in
shrines.



TOYO IS
GOIN' BACK
HOME.

AREN'T
YOU SUR-
PRISED?

HUH...
WHAT THE
HELL
ARE YOU
SAYIN'?



SHE'LL BE
BACK TO
NORMAL
SOON.

SONO'S
JUST A LITTLE
CONFUSED.



...TOYO?

SFX:
gulp



IT
HAPPENS.

SHE
WITNESSED
A FIGHT.



I WISHED
FOR SONO
TO SERVE
ME WHILE
I WAITED
HERE TO
KILL YOU.

I KNOW
YOU CAME
HERE FOR
SONO.



WHY'S SONO
SERVIN' YOU
DRINKS?!

HUH?
WHAT ARE
YOU ON
ABOUT?!



IT'S OF
NO CON-
CERN.

WHY THE
FUCK DO YOU
KNOW THAT?!




YOU...!



IT DOES
NOT MATTER
IF YOU KNEW
THE ONE WHO
INFORMED
ME.

HUH?



WHAT YOU
MUST DO
HAS ALREADY
BEEN DECIDED,
REGARDLESS
OF OTHERS'
EXPECTA-
TIONS AND
SCHEMES.

THE FACT
THAT YOU'RE
THE ONE WHO
GOT SONO
CAUGHT UP
IN ALL THIS
REMAINS
THE SAME.



I DON'T
LIKE ANYTHIN'
ABOUT THIS!
IT FEELS LIKE
I'M DANCIN' TO
SOMEONE'S
TUNE!

SHUT UP!
I ALREADY
KNOW
ALL THAT,
IDIOT!



QUIT YOUR
YAMMERIN'!

NOW YOU
MUST FACE
THAT TRUTH
HEAD ON!



WHO HAD
NOTHIN' TO
DO WITH
THIS!

YOU'RE
ACTIN' PRETTY
HIGH AND
MIGHTY FOR
THE ONE WHO
KILLED MY
LITTLE SISTER,
CHIYO,



WHAT
ON...



STOP
FUCKIN'
AROUND!

THAT KIND-
LOOKING GIRL
THAT LOOKED
LIKE SONO...

BY CHIYO...
YOUR LITTLE
SISTER IS
CHIYO?



**FOR TWO
REASONS!**

**I CAME
HERE...**



HLH?



**AND TAKE
HER BACK
HOME!**

**THE FIRST
IS TO GET
SONO OUT
OF HERE...**



**I'LL BE
THE ONE
TO TAKE
YOU BACK
HOME!**

**DON'T
WORRY
SONO!**

**I ALREADY
SAID MY
DADDY IS
COMIN' TO
PICK ME UP
ON THE
BACK OF A
KOMAINLI...**



**I'M CUTTIN'
YOU DOWN AS
VENGEANCE
FOR CHIYO!**

**AND THEN
THERE'S YOU,
IMUTA!**



**I'M DONE
WITH...
KILLING
OTHERS!**

**AND THEN...
AFTER' YOU...**



**FOR PICKIN'
THE LAST
GUY I KILL!**

**I'M NOT
GOIN' TO BE
CURSED...**

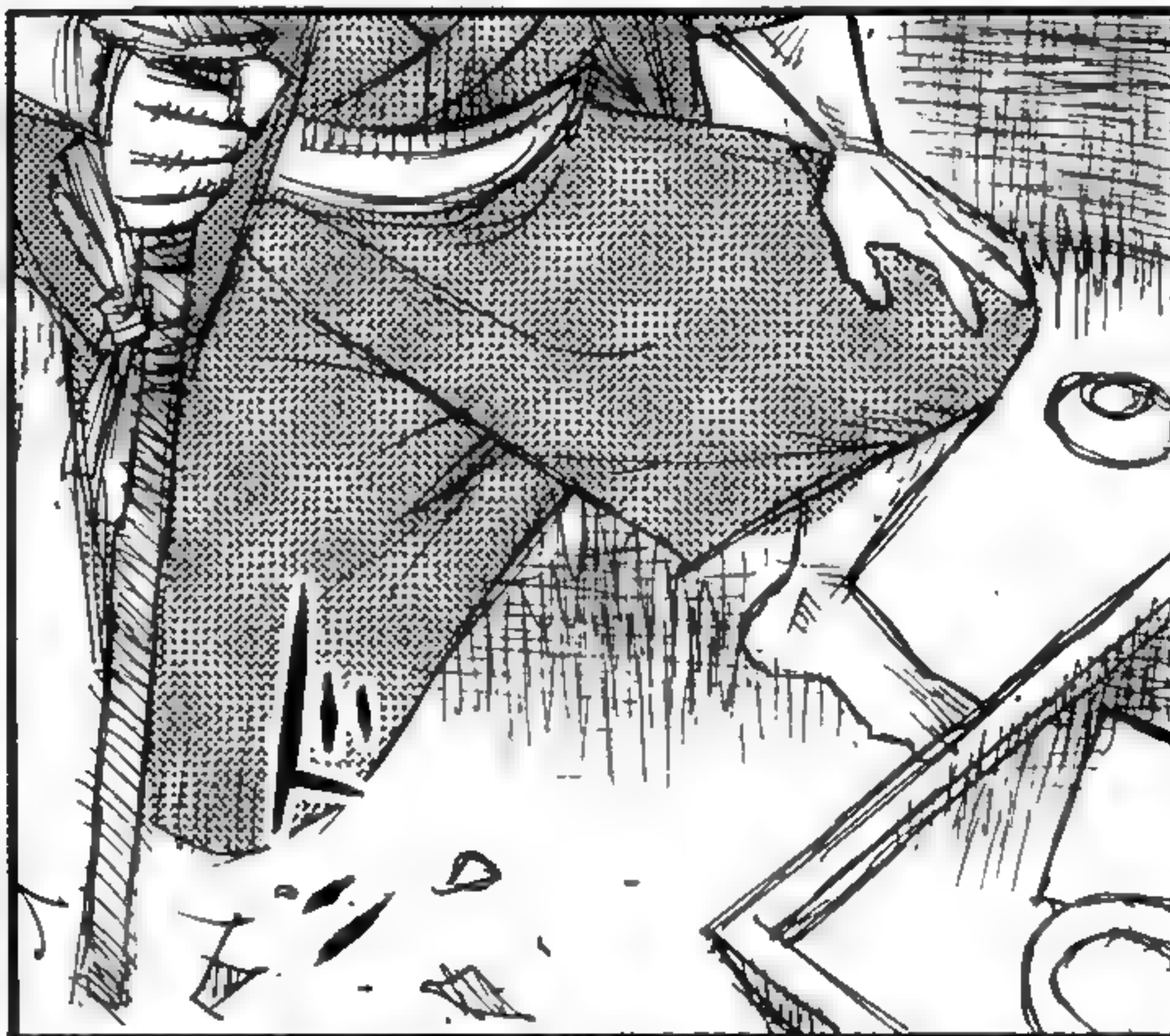


**WE'RE
BEING
MADE TO
DANCE
PRETTY
WELL.**

**TRUE...
IT'S JUST
AS YOU
SAID...**



SFX:
clatter



SFX:
slam





HOW
CONCENT-
ED.

HMPH.



SFX:
clack



Clunk







DON'T
HOLD
BACK.

NO NEED
TO WORRY
ABOUT IT.



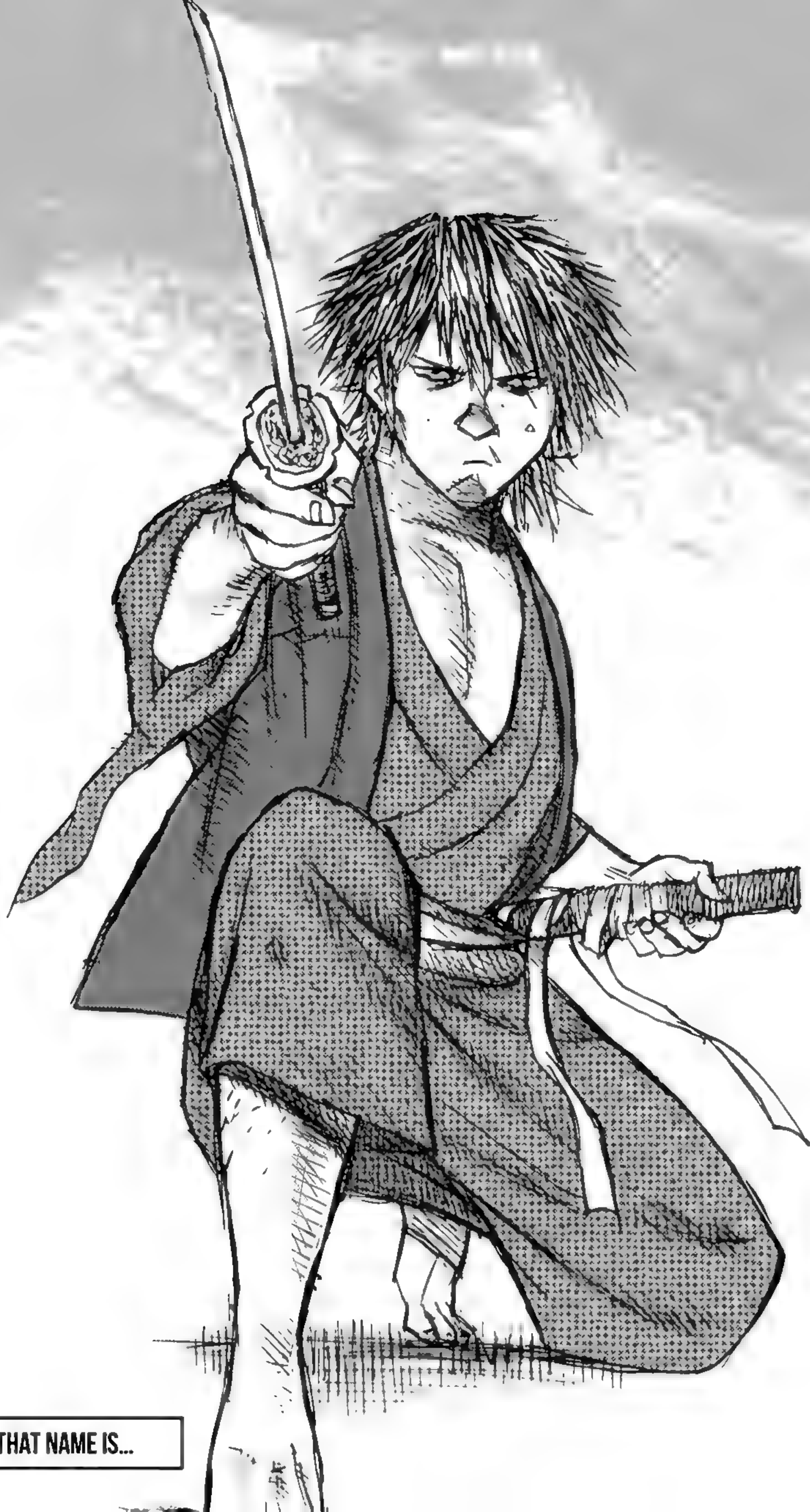
PUT
EVERYTHING
YOU HAVE
INTO IT.

ONE
STROKE
OF THE
SWORD.



ONE
STRIKE,
HUH?

.....





PUT
EVERYTHING
YOU HAVE
INTO IT.

ONE
STROKE
OF THE
SWORD.



ONE
STRIKE,
HUH?

•
•
•
•
•
•



**WHY
EVERYONE
DIED!**

**BUT
THAT'S
ALSO...**

**UME-
KICHI!**

**WASA-
BUROU!**

GENJI!

**CHIYO-
MATSU!**

SENTA!

EVEN...

SHINPEI!

**SHUT
UP!**

**MR.
USHIGO-**

**AND
YONE-
KICHI!**

**ICHI-
ZOU...**



I'LL
HAVE YOU
KNOW...

IMUTA...
BEFORE I
CUT YOU
DOWN...



THAT'S
OUR
NAME.

THE ONE
STRIKE,

ONE KILL
SQUAD.



**DON'T YOU
FORGET IT!!**



THE ONE
STRIKE,
ONE KILL
SQUAD...

I SEE.



YOU MUST
HAVE BEEN
STRONG.



THEY SAY
THE NAME
MAKES THE
MAN...

A FINE
NAME
IT IS...
I LIKE
IT.



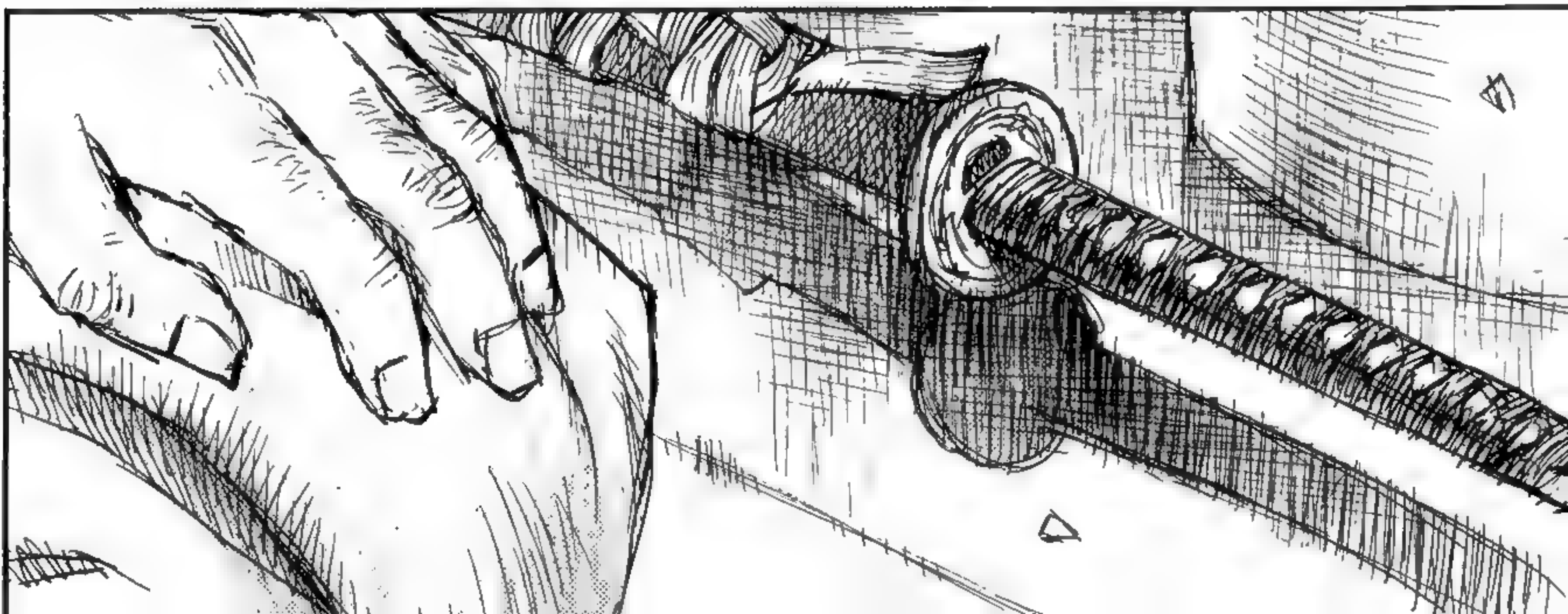
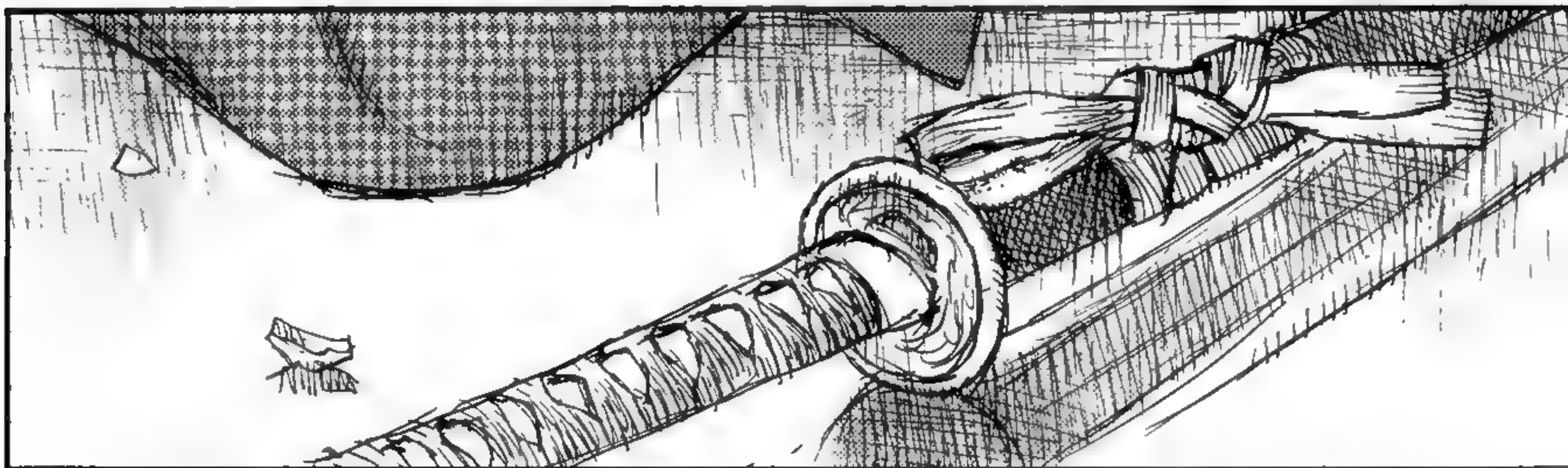
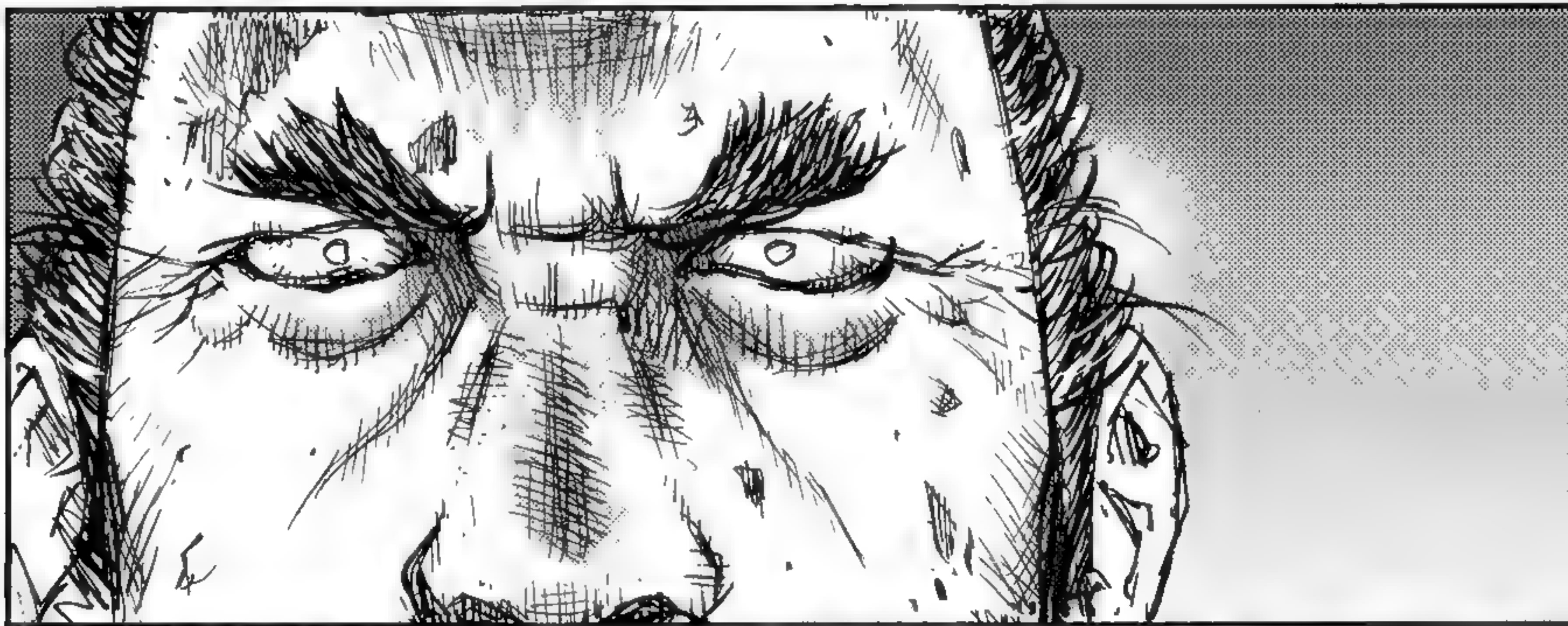
**SHOW ME
THE MIGHT
OF YOUR
ONE STRIKE
STYLE!**

**THEN, FOR
THE SAKE OF
THOSE WHO
HAVE DIED, I
CANNOT BACK
DOWN!**

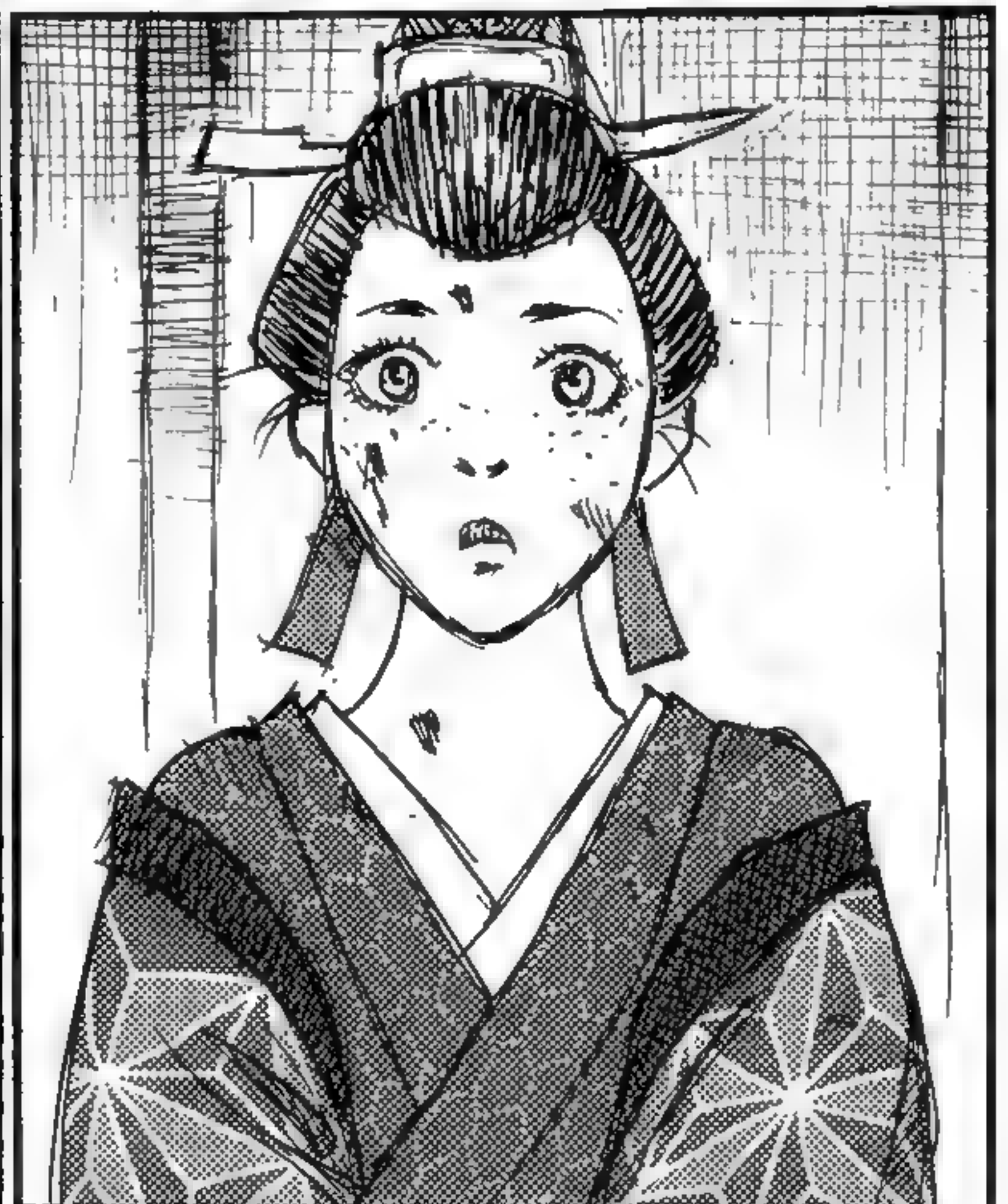


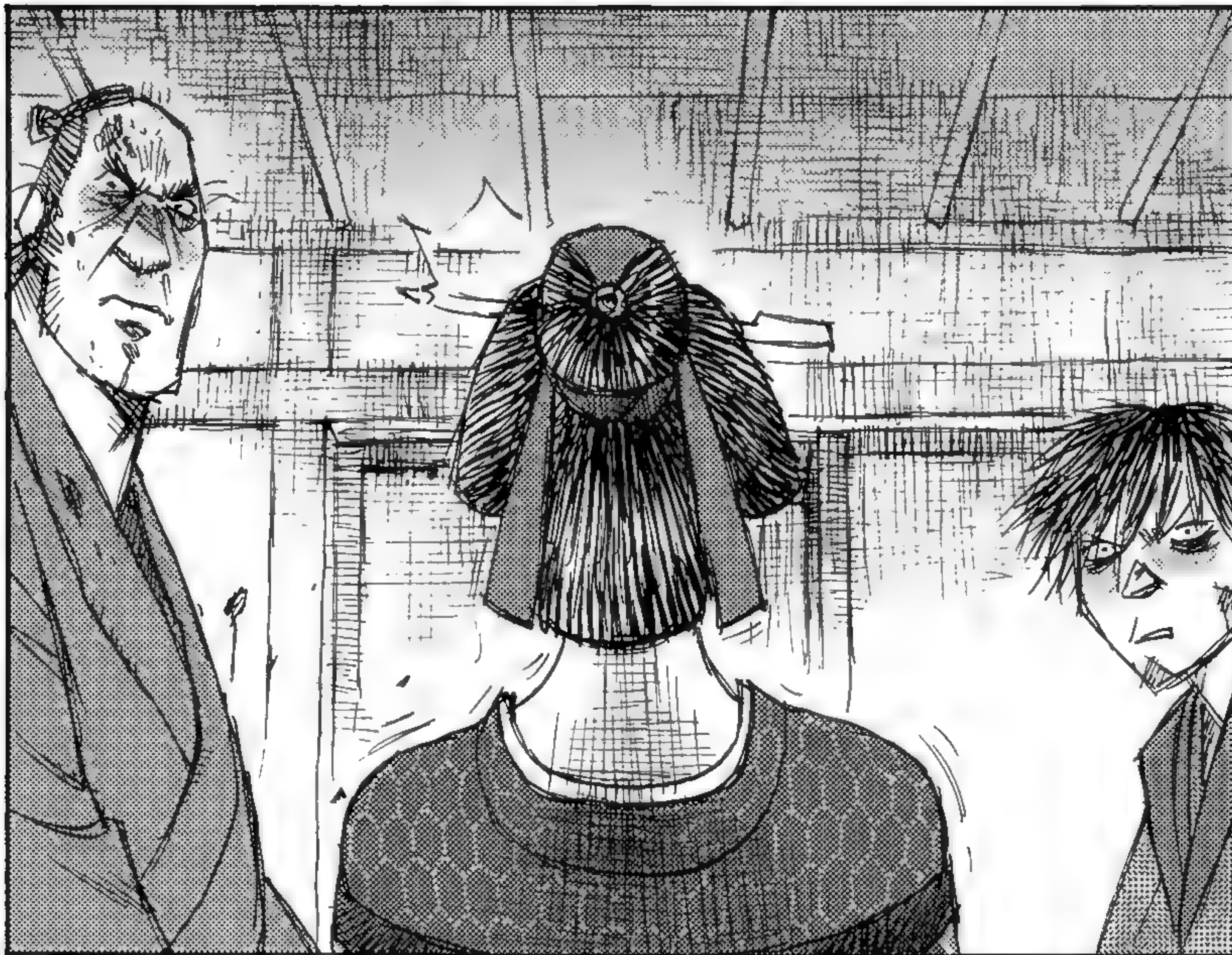
**READY
WHEN
YOU
ARE,**

**USHI-
GOROU!**











WHA-



THIS IS
AN ISSUE
BETWEEN
MEN!!

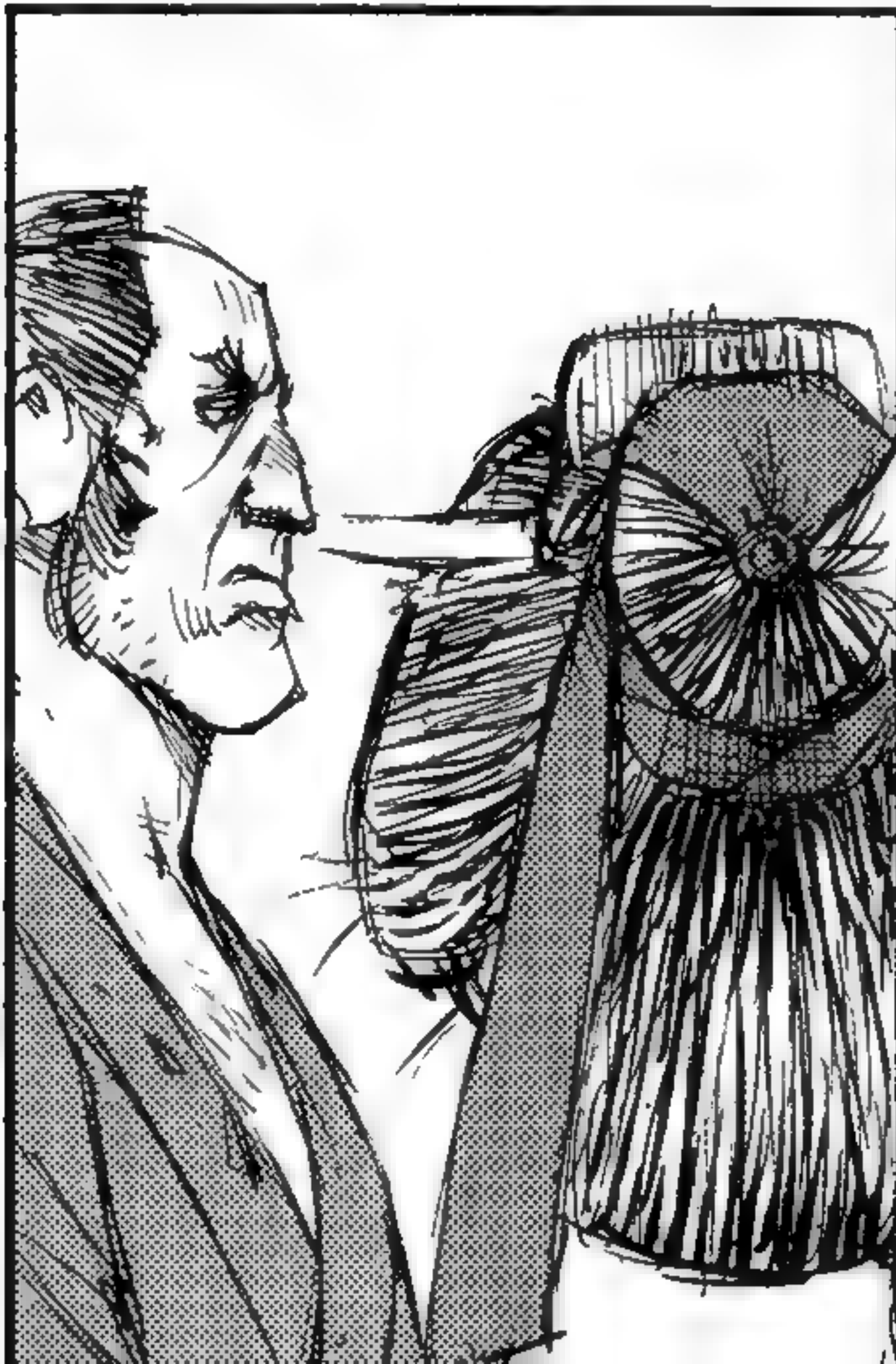
QUIT YOUR
BACKTALK
AND GO!



STOP
WITH THIS
KOMAINU
STUFF
ALREADY,
IDIOT!

I DON'T CARE
IF YOU GET
BITTEN BY A
KOMAINU!

YOU DON'T
HAVE TO BE
SO RUDE, MR.
USHIGOROU.



SONO!



WOULD
YOU KINDLY
GET US
ANOTHER
BOTTLE?
HOT,
PLEASE.



WE'RE
OUT OF
SAKE.



YOU
TWO ARE
REALLY
UNFAIR.



I'LL
GO GET
MORE
SAKE.

YES,
YES.
AS YOU
WISH.



I BET THE
BOYS CLUB
IS HEAPS
MORE FUN,
HUH.

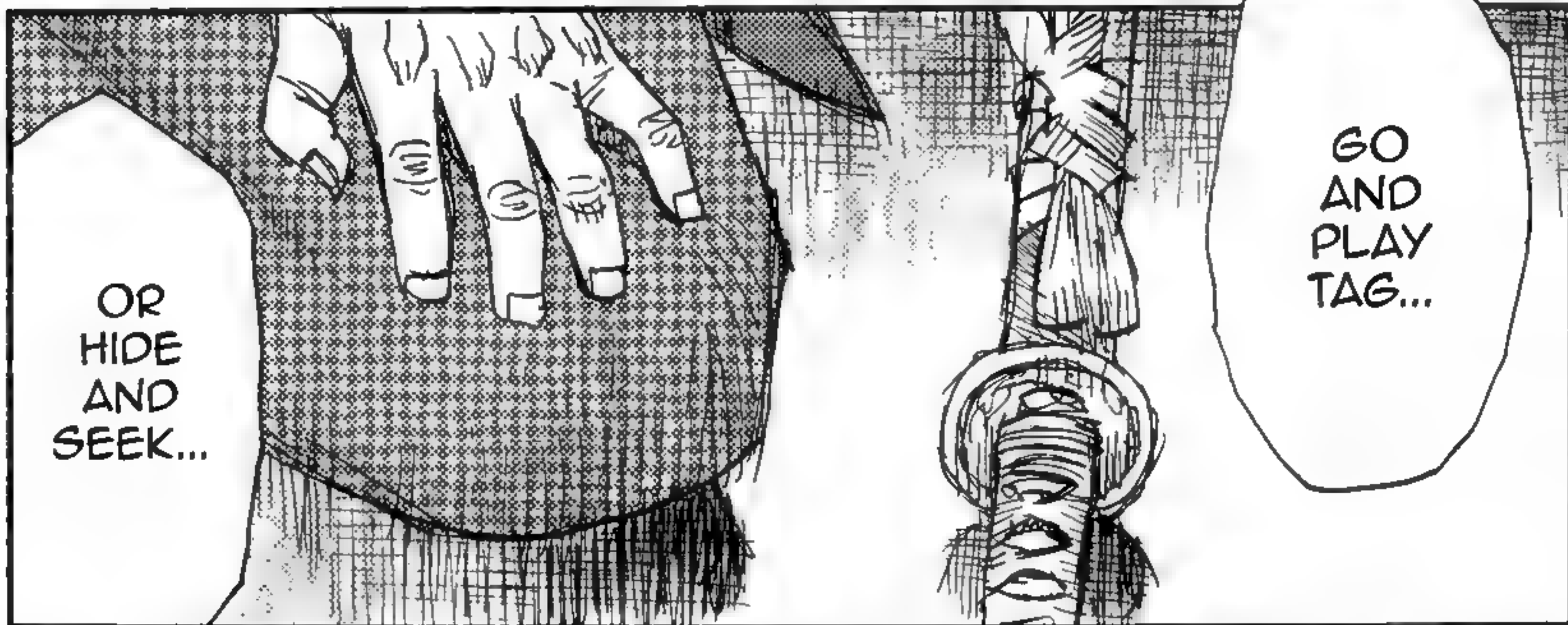
IGNORIN'
ME JUST
'CAUSE I'M
A WOMAN.



PEASANTS,
SAMURAI,
YOU'RE ALL
THE SAME.

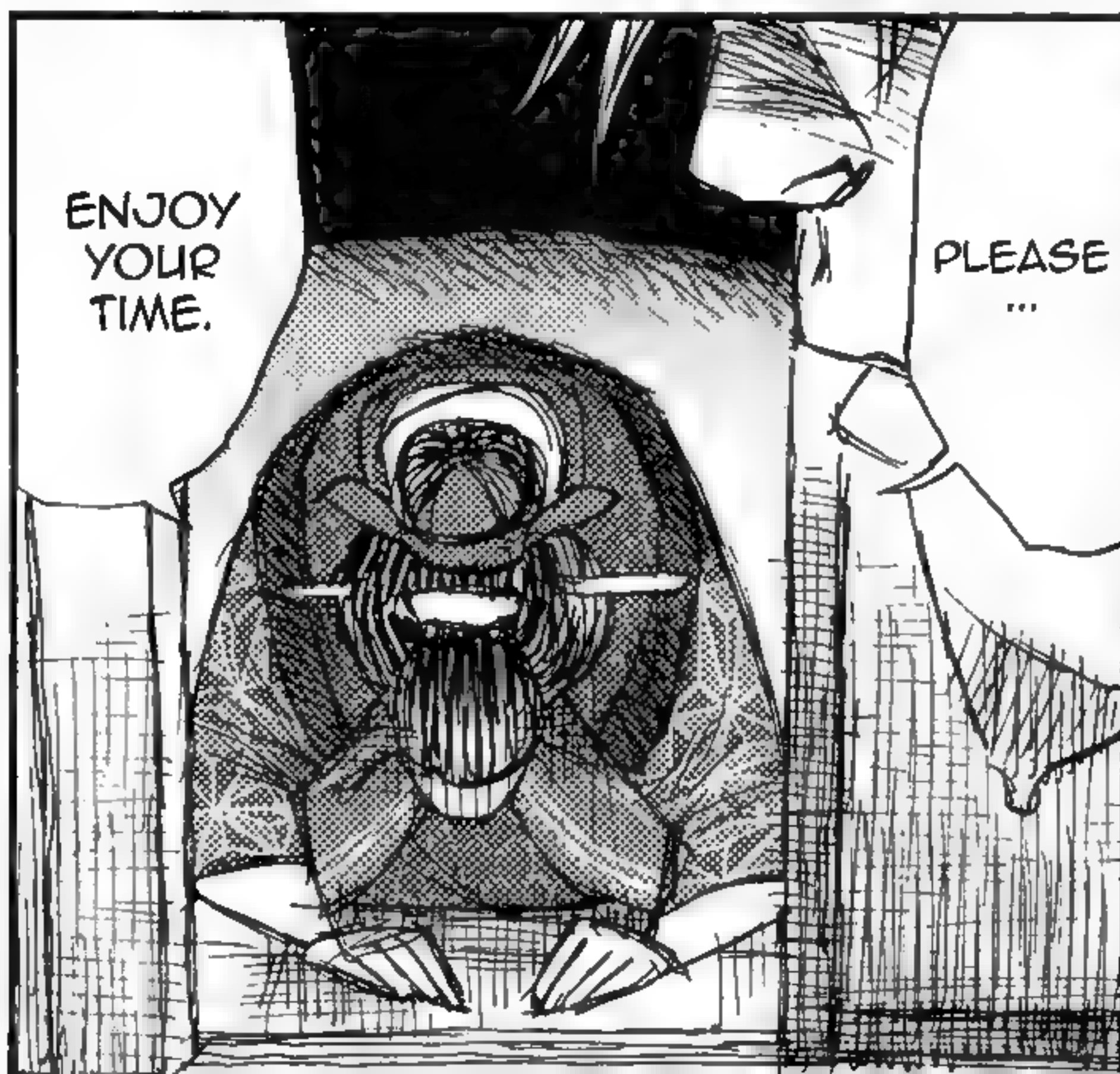


WHY DO
WE WOMEN
ALWAYS HAVE
TO LOSE OUT?
IT MAKES NO
SENSE.



OR
HIDE
AND
SEEK...

GO
AND
PLAY
TAG...



ENJOY
YOUR
TIME.

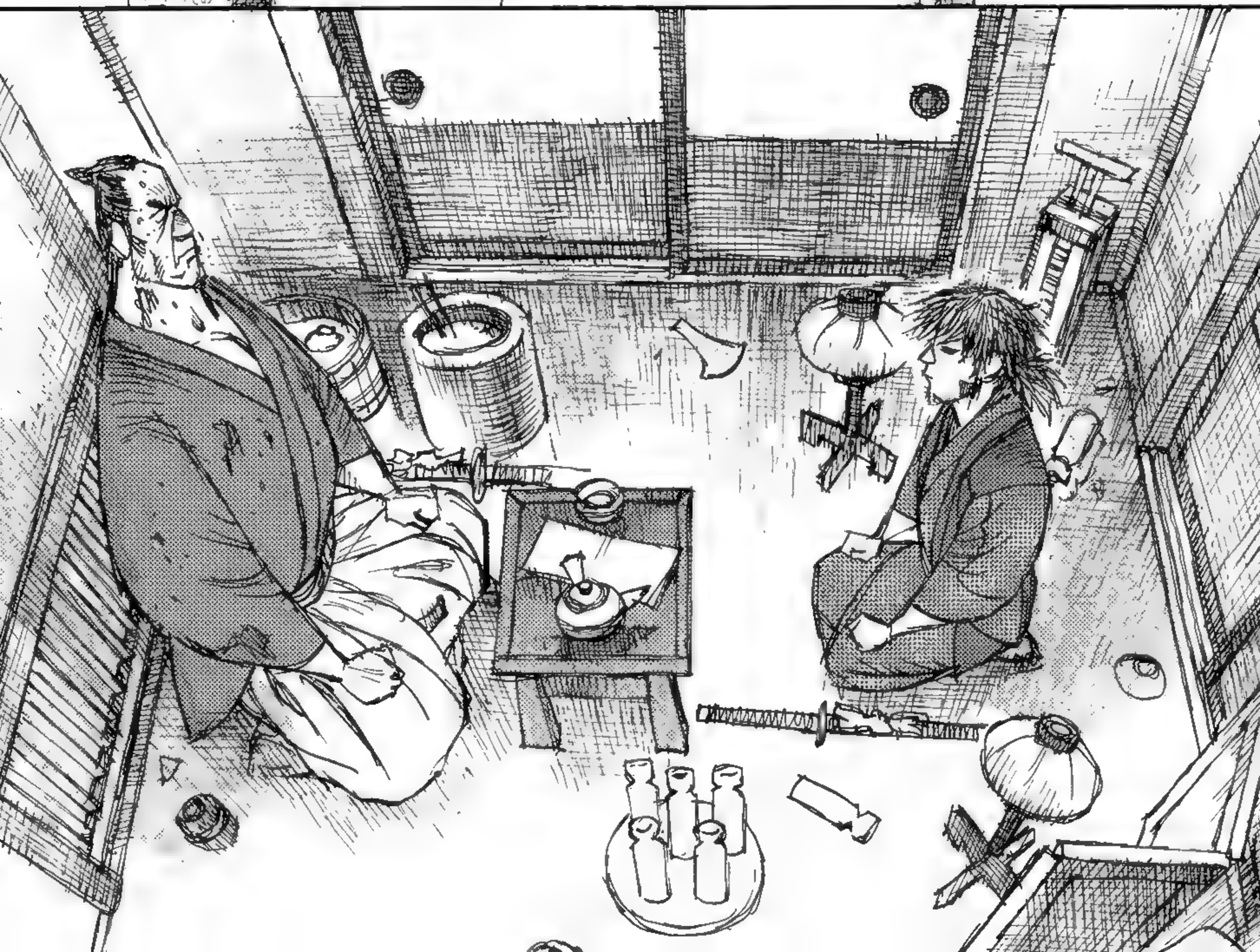
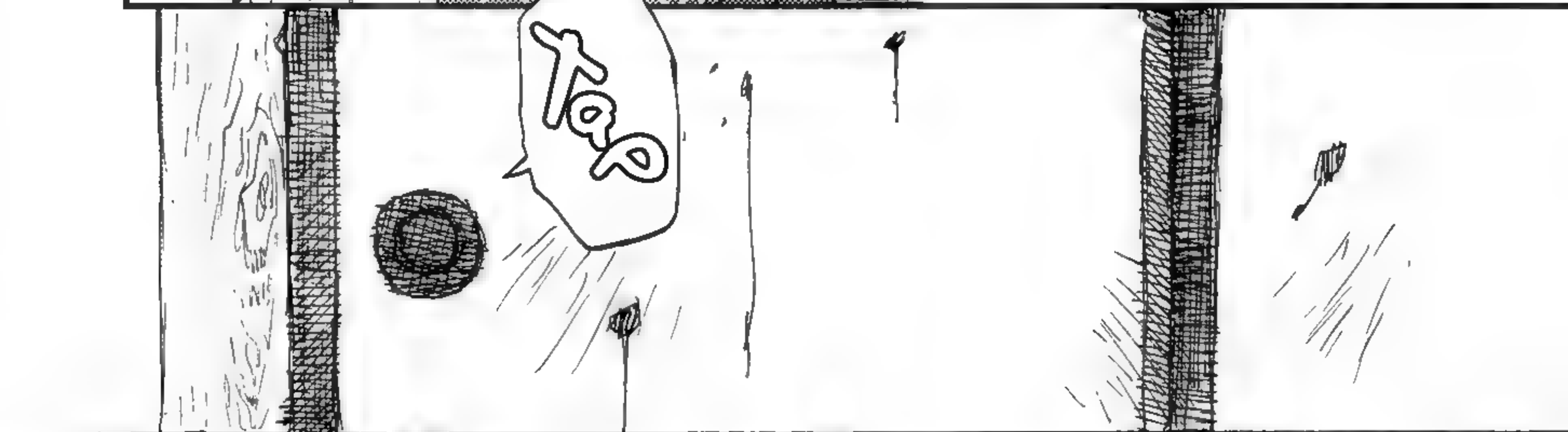
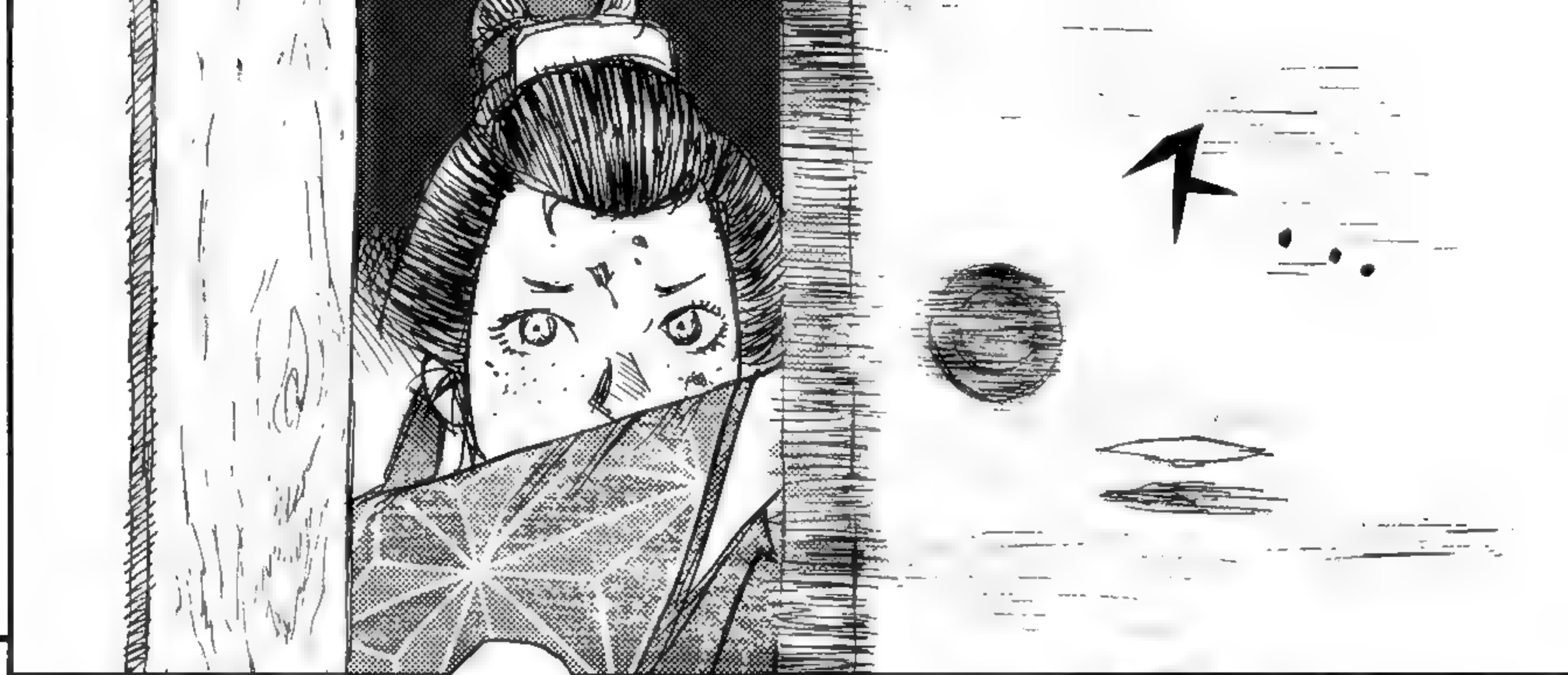
PLEASE
...

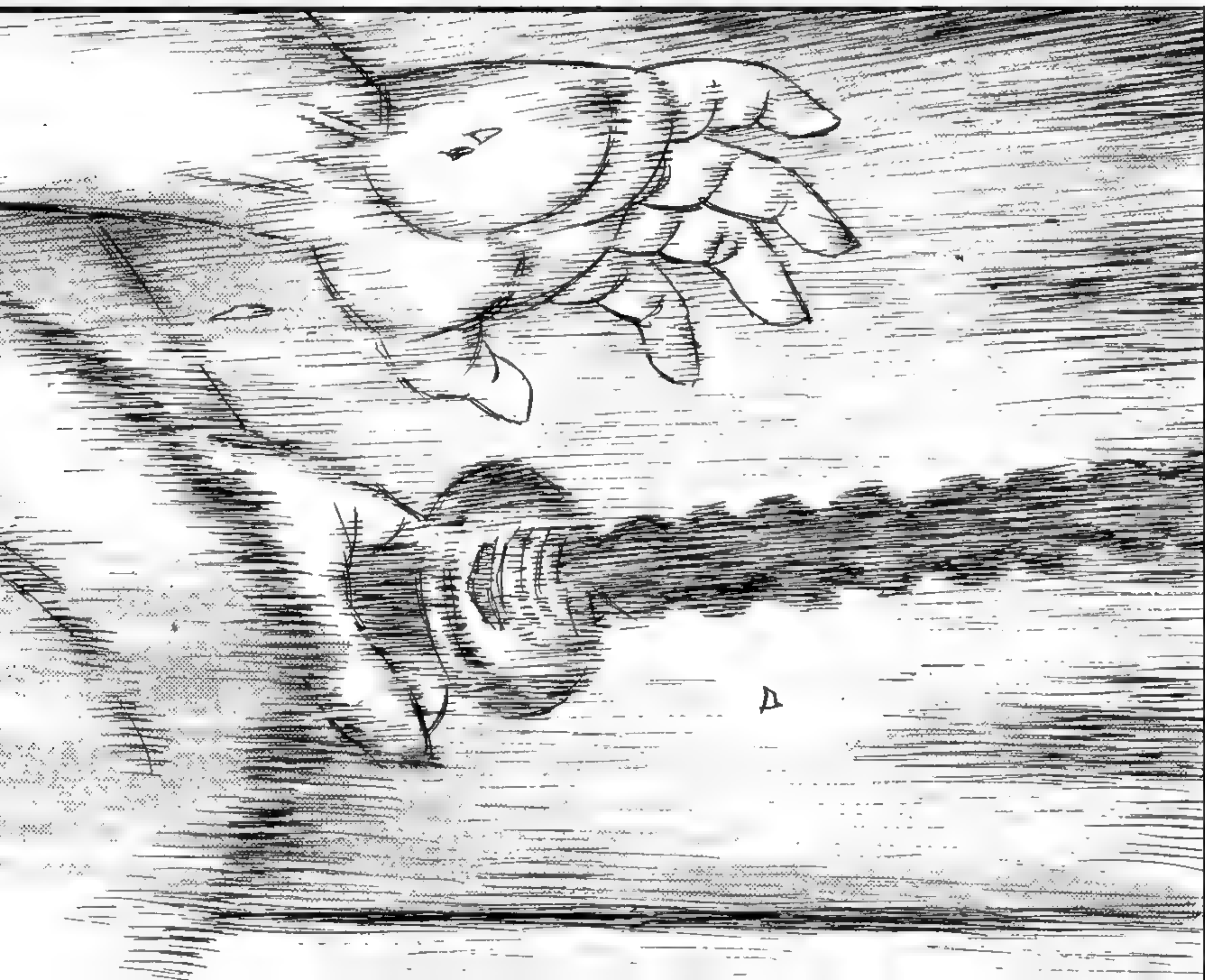
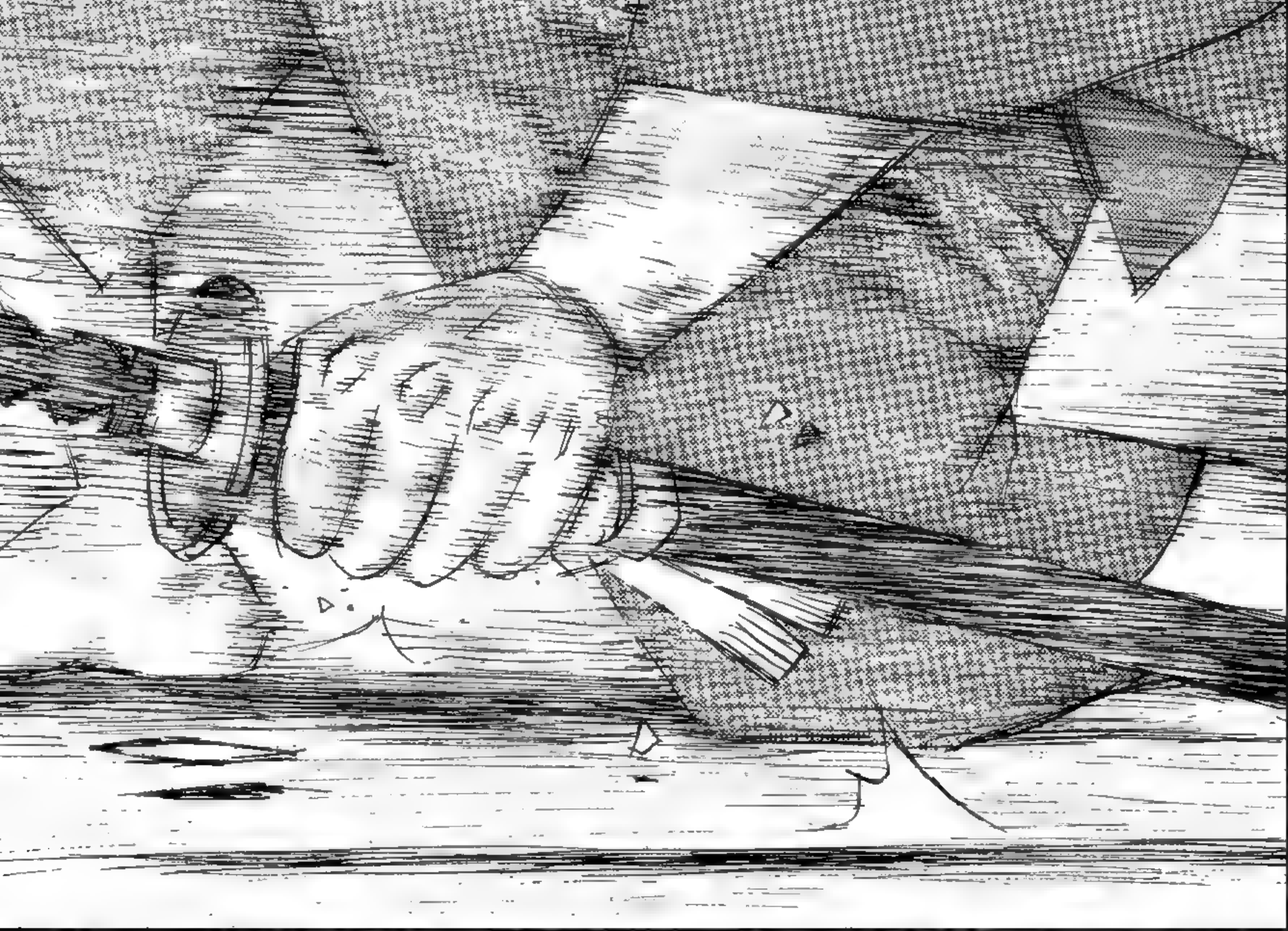


OR WHAT-
EVER YOU
WANT.



SFX:
slide













UGH...

SFX: grind, crack

SFX: crash

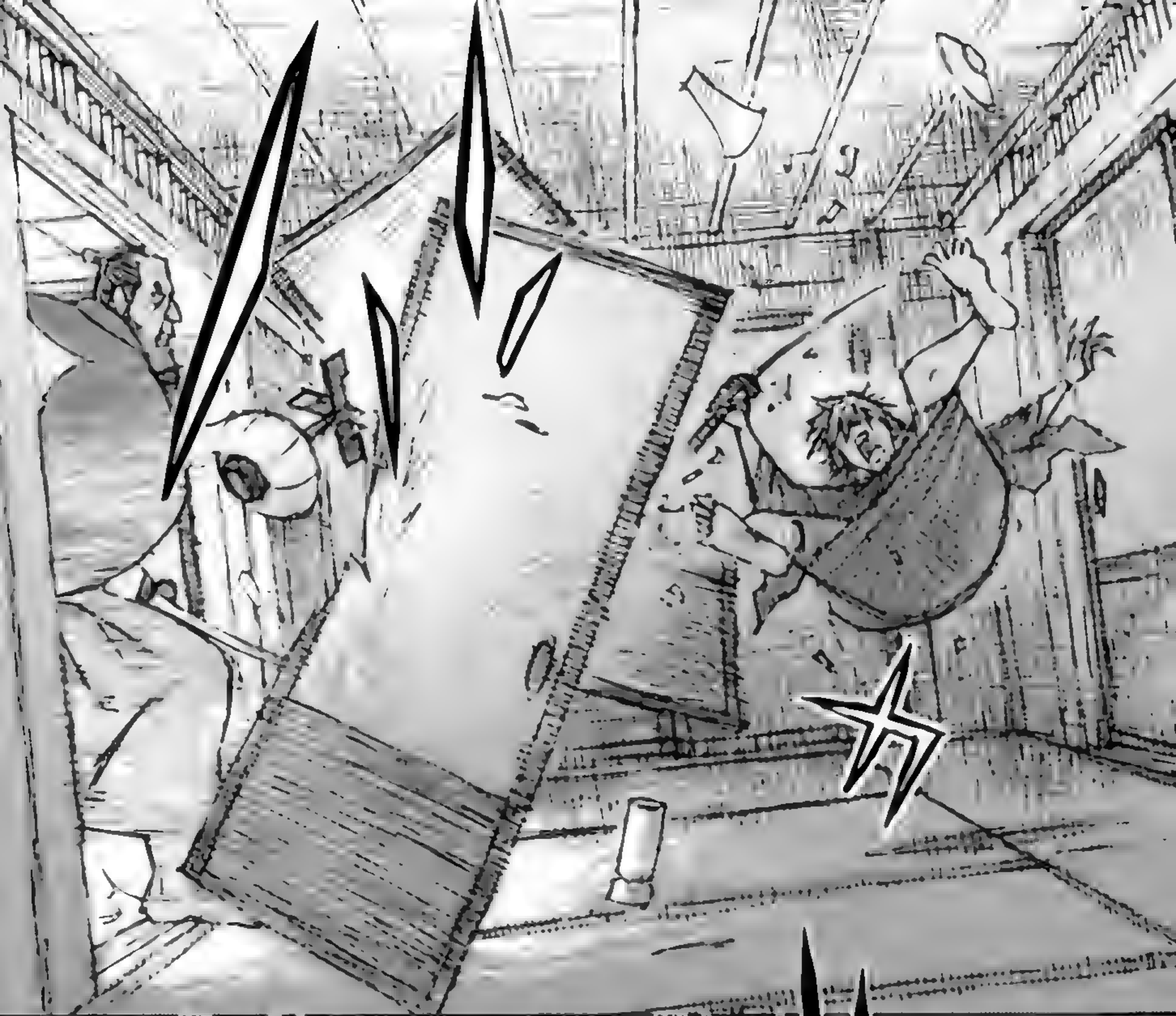
NNGH...

YOU
BLOCKED?!



SFX: Nooryaah





SFX: snap, thud



USHI-
GOROU!

10
X

SFX: slam, crash



OW...

SFX:
scramble



SFX:
thud



SFX:
slash







**WHY ARE YOU
RUNNIIING?!**

WHA-



SFX:
thud,
crack



HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

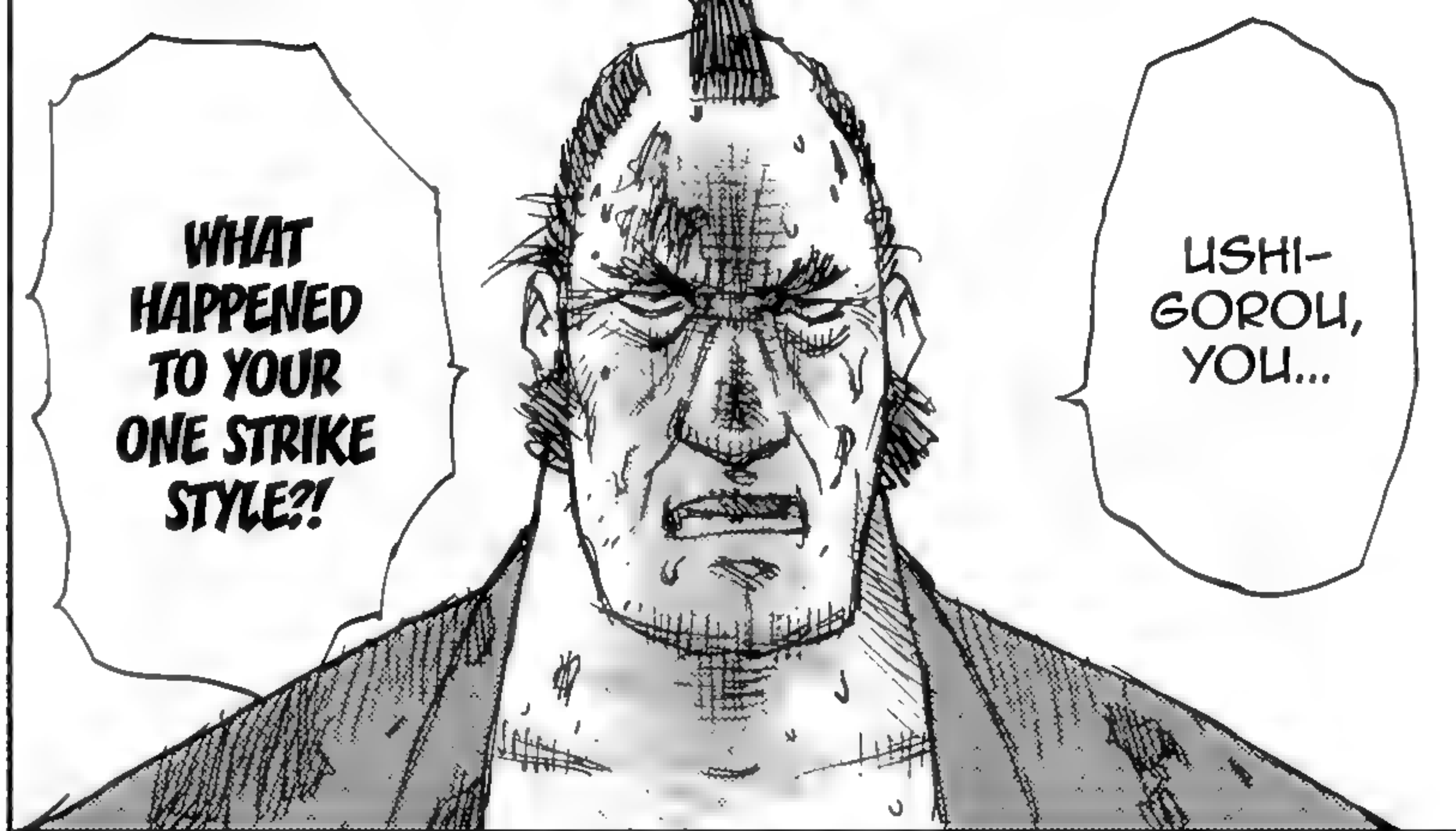


**STUPID ENOUGH
TO TRY AND TAKE
A BEAST LIKE YOU
HEAD ON.**

**WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH...
RUNNIN'
AROUND...?
I'M NOT...**

SFX:
thud

SFX:
buckle



WHAT
HAPPENED
TO YOUR
ONE STRIKE
STYLE?!

USHI-
GOROU,
YOU...



THEY ALL
DIED 'CAUSE
THEY USED IT
WITHOUT USIN'
THEIR HEADS.

DON'T
RUSH
ME.



HM?





THERE
WAS BLOOD
EVERYWHERE
AND EVERYONE
RAN AND I...
I...

MR.
IMUTA
CAME...
AND
THEN...

LOTS OF
SAMURAIS
WENT AFTER
HIM AND...

SFX:
tremble x3



SONO!

IT'S
ALRIGHT,
TAKE A
BREATH!

**CALM
DOWN!**



ACK!

SFX:
slam



AHH!

Whack



HUH?!

SFX:
crumble

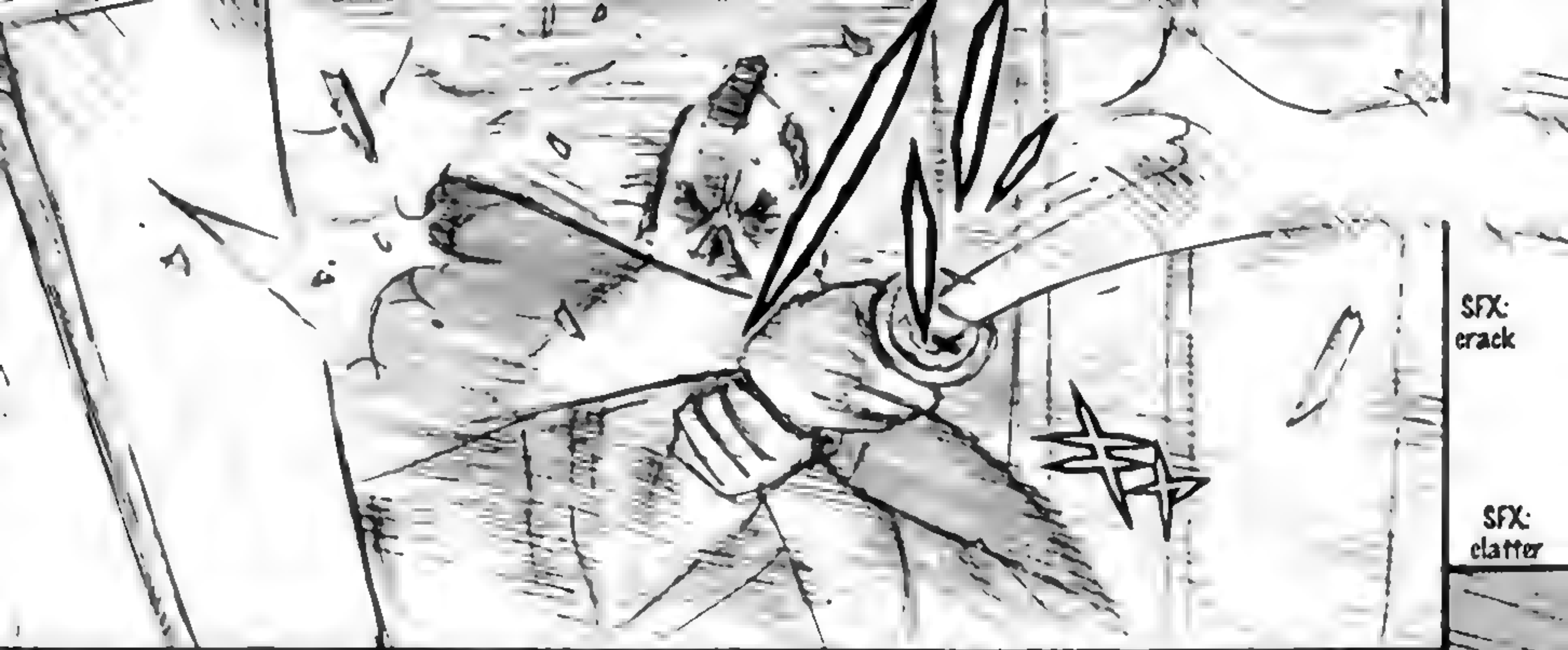


SFX:
Swoosh



SFX:
crash,
thud,
bang,
grip





SFX:
crack

SFX:
clatter



Clink

SFX:
huff huff

**I'VE GOT
QUICK
FEET.**

JUST
SO YOU
KNOW...

**DON'T
FUCK WITH
ME...**

USHI-
GOROU,



CHAPTER 43: TAG





Top SFX:
Kyaaaaah

SFX:
thud,
crack



I HEAR
SOMETHING
ELSE.

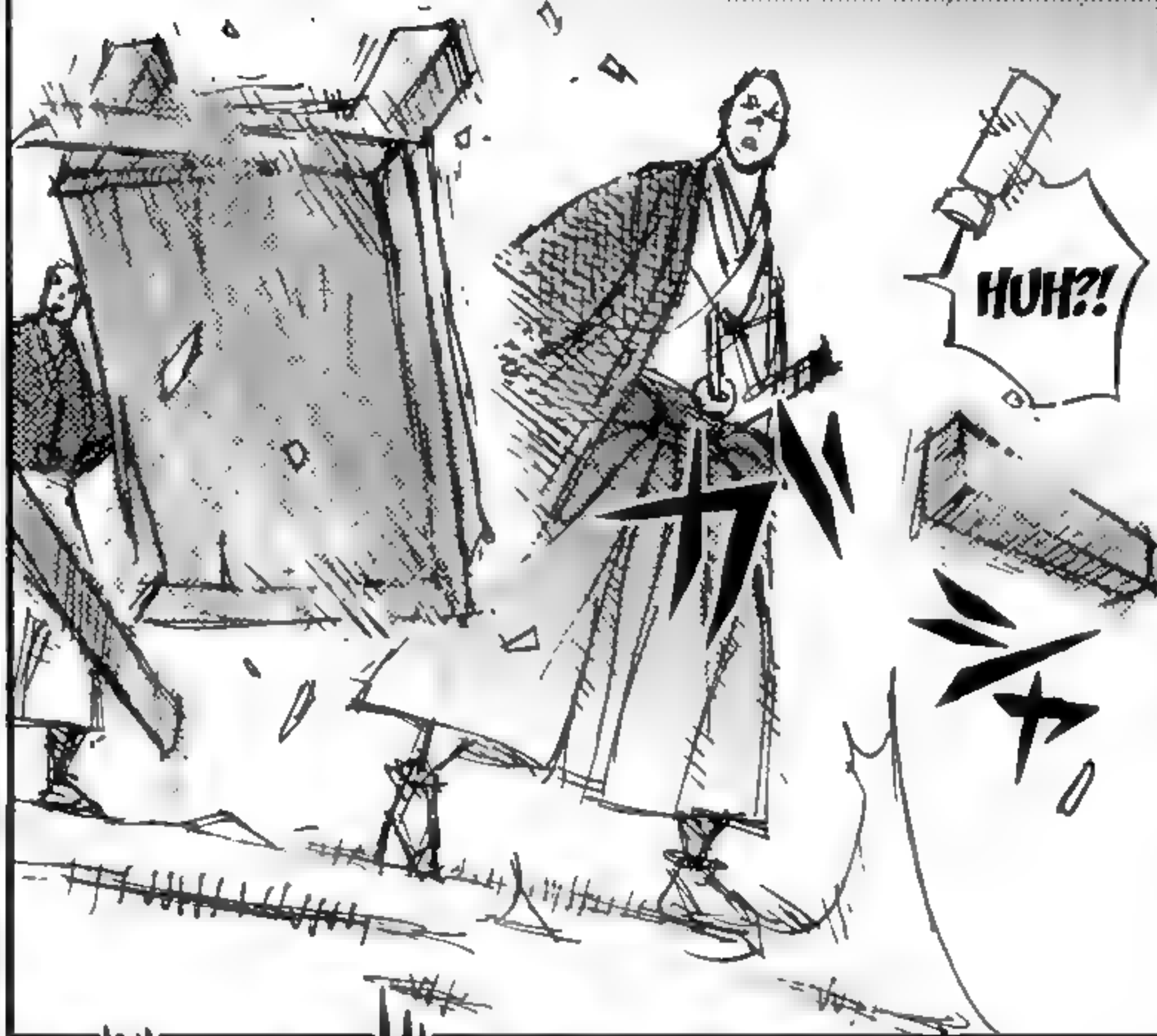


WHAT
WAS THAT
SCREAM?

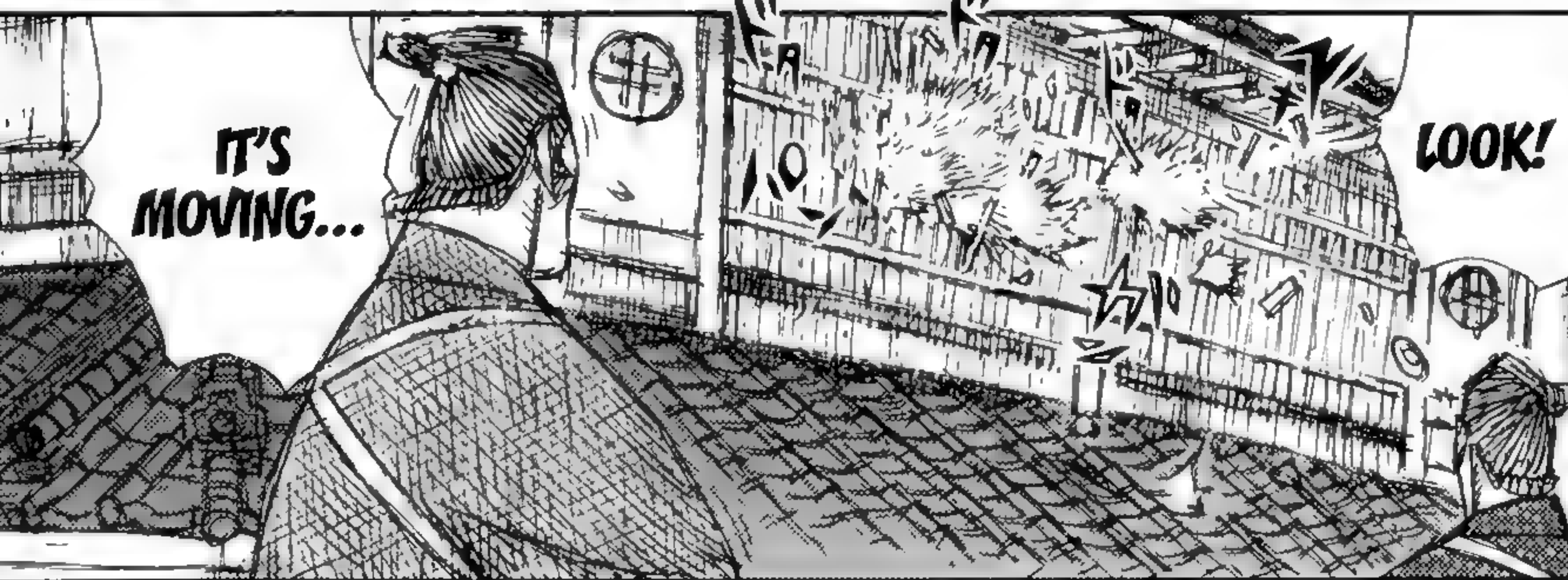
SFX:
crash



!



SFX:
crash



SFX:
step,
crack,
snap,
bang



**WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!**

**THEY
MUST BE
FIGHTING!**

**WHAT IS
THIS?!**

SFX:
slam,
rattle,
bang,
thud,
crack

**DO YOU THINK
ONE OF OUR SUR-
VIVING ALLIES IS
ENGAGED WITH
IMUTA?**

**LORD
MASU-
MITSU,**



THAT
PEASANT
FROM
BEFORE.

OR
MAYBE...

SFX:
clatter



WHA...

SFX:
crack,
crash



THAT
PEASANT...

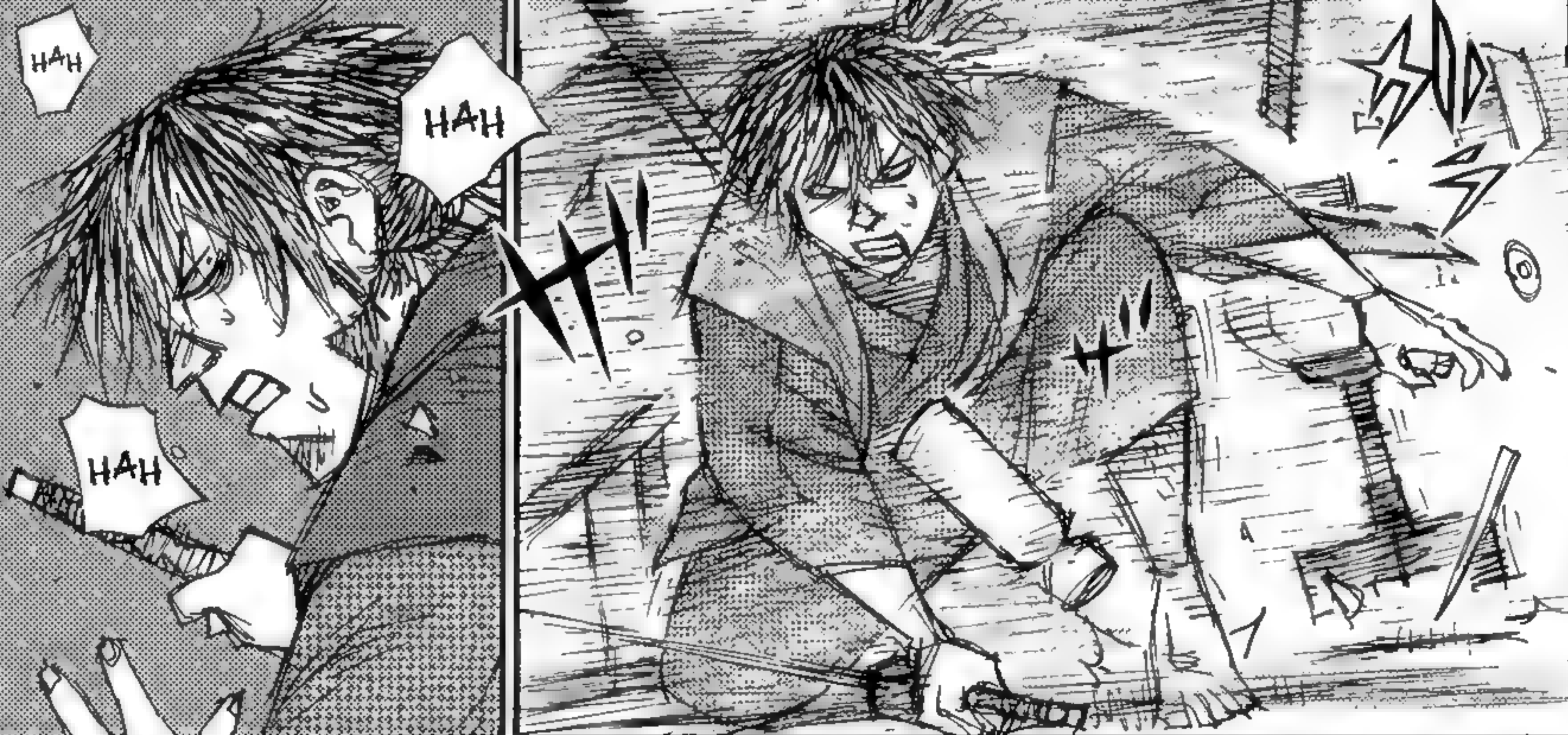
NO
WAY...

SFX:
thud,
groan,
crack,
bang

SFX:
thud x4

SFX:
CRASH

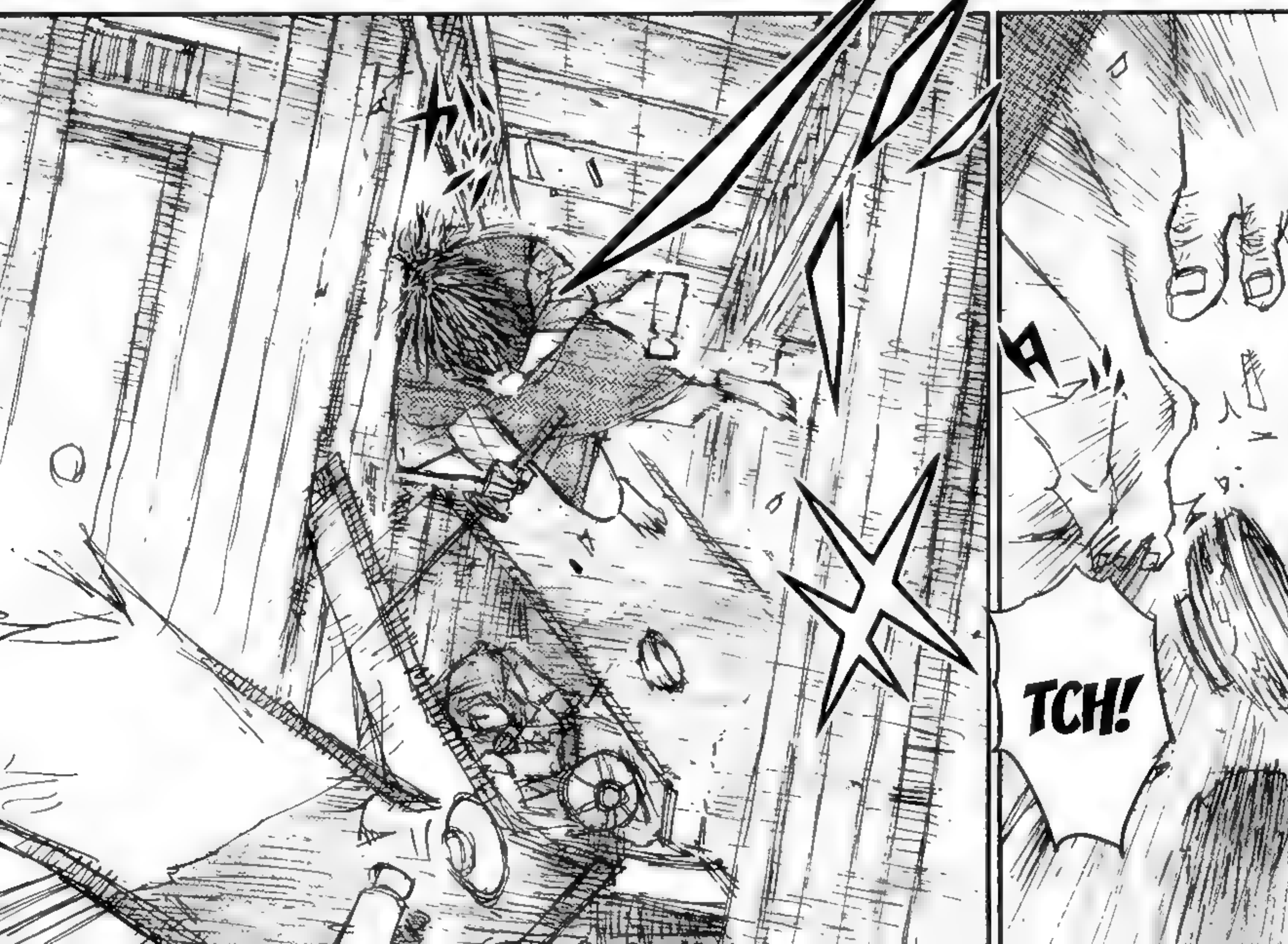




SFX:
clatter,
slide



SFX:
bang

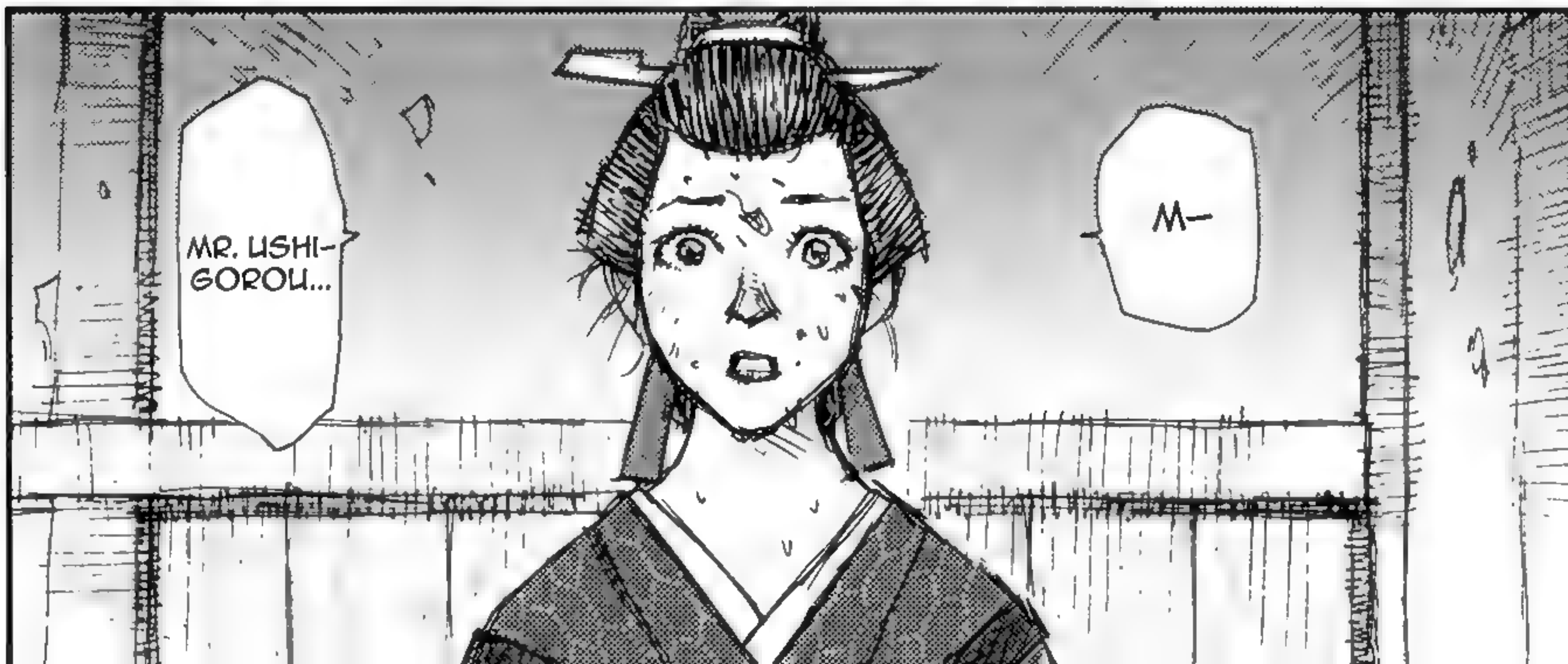
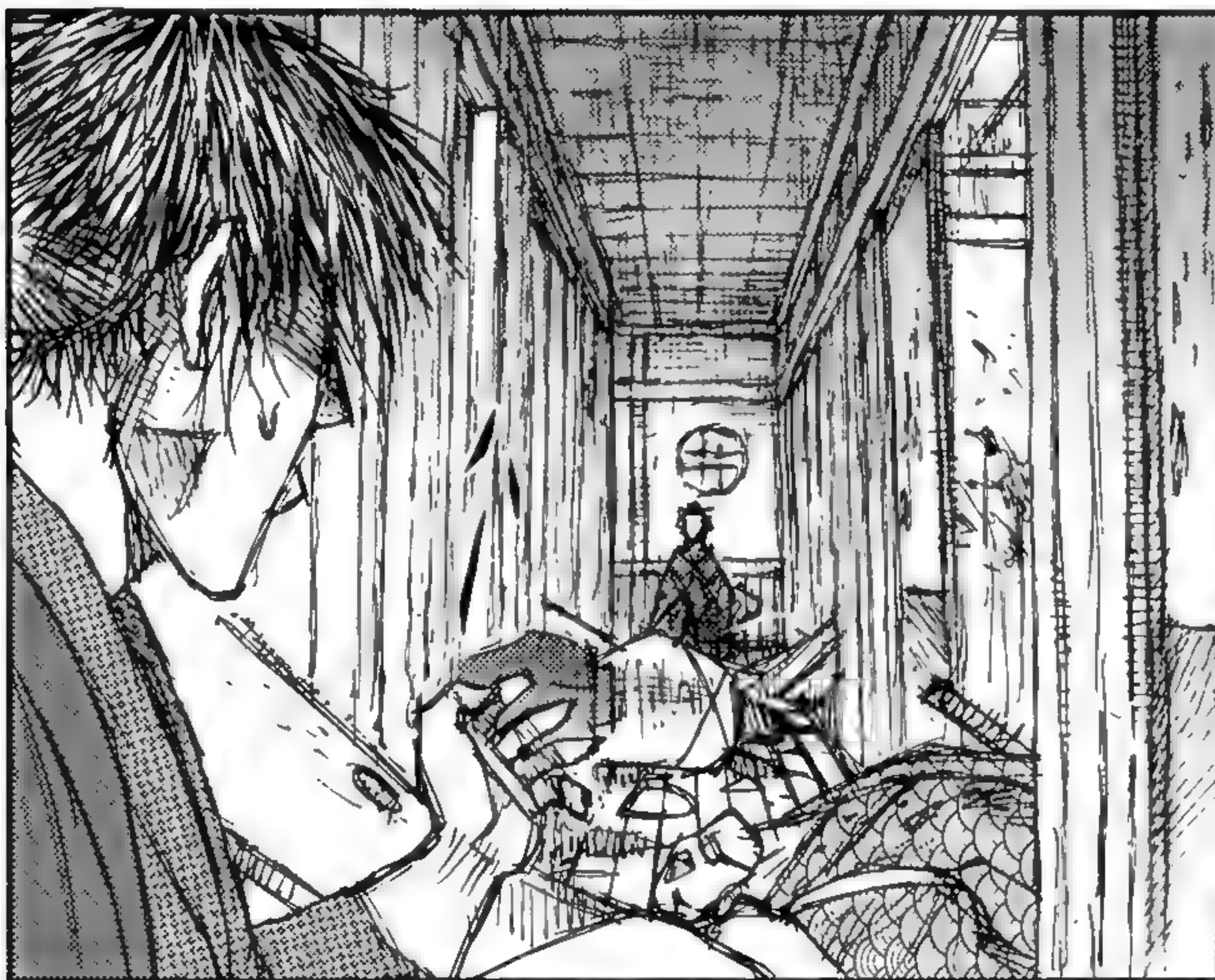


SFX:
dash,
CRASH

SFX:
slip,
slam



SFX:
huff x3

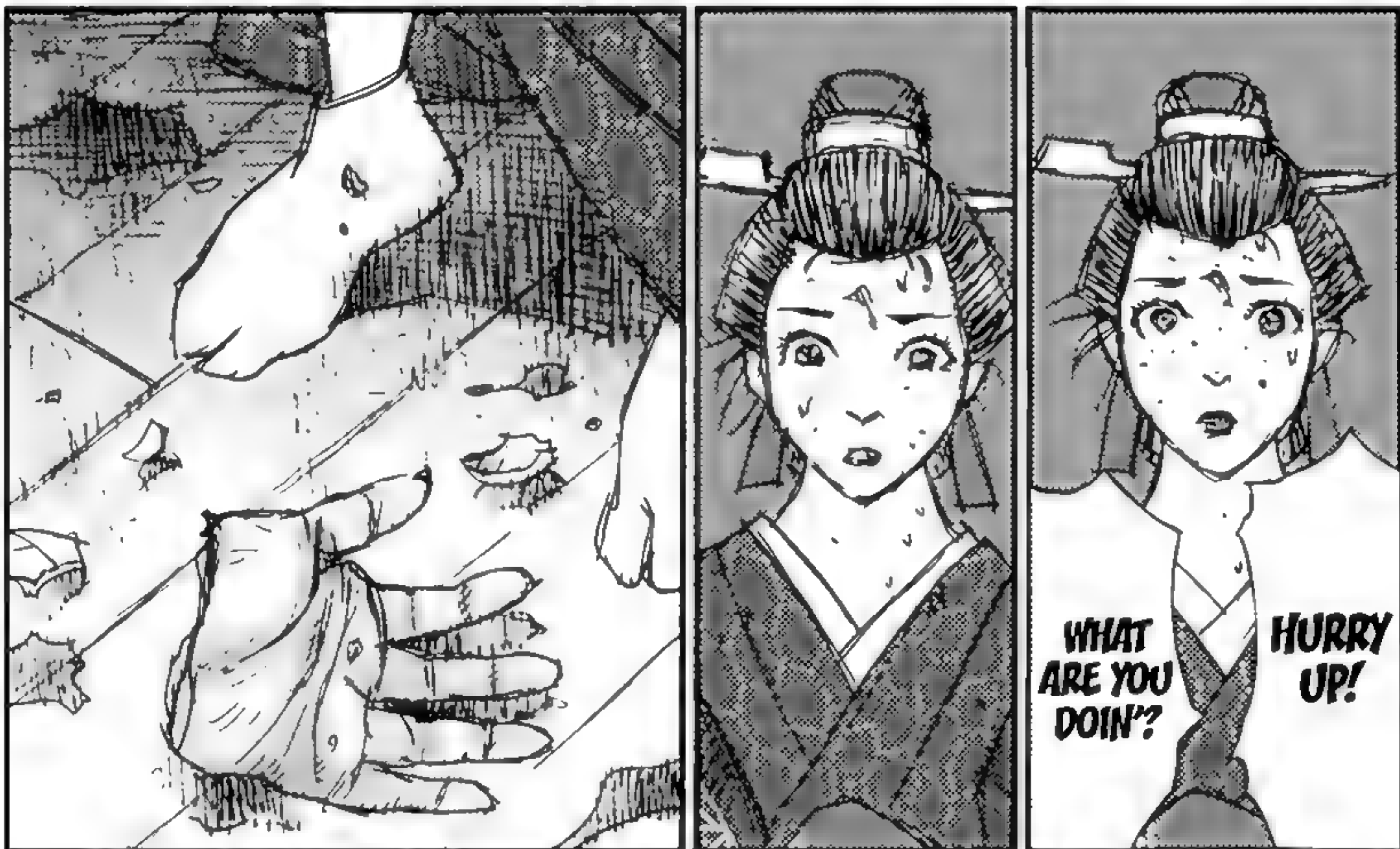


**COME
TO ME
IF YOU
CAN!**

**N-NOW'S
YOUR
CHANCE,
SONO!**

**COME
TO ME
IF YOU
CAN!**

**N-NOW'S
YOUR
CHANCE,
SONO!**



WHAT ARE YOU DOIN'?

HURRY UP!

WHAT ARE YOU DOIN'?

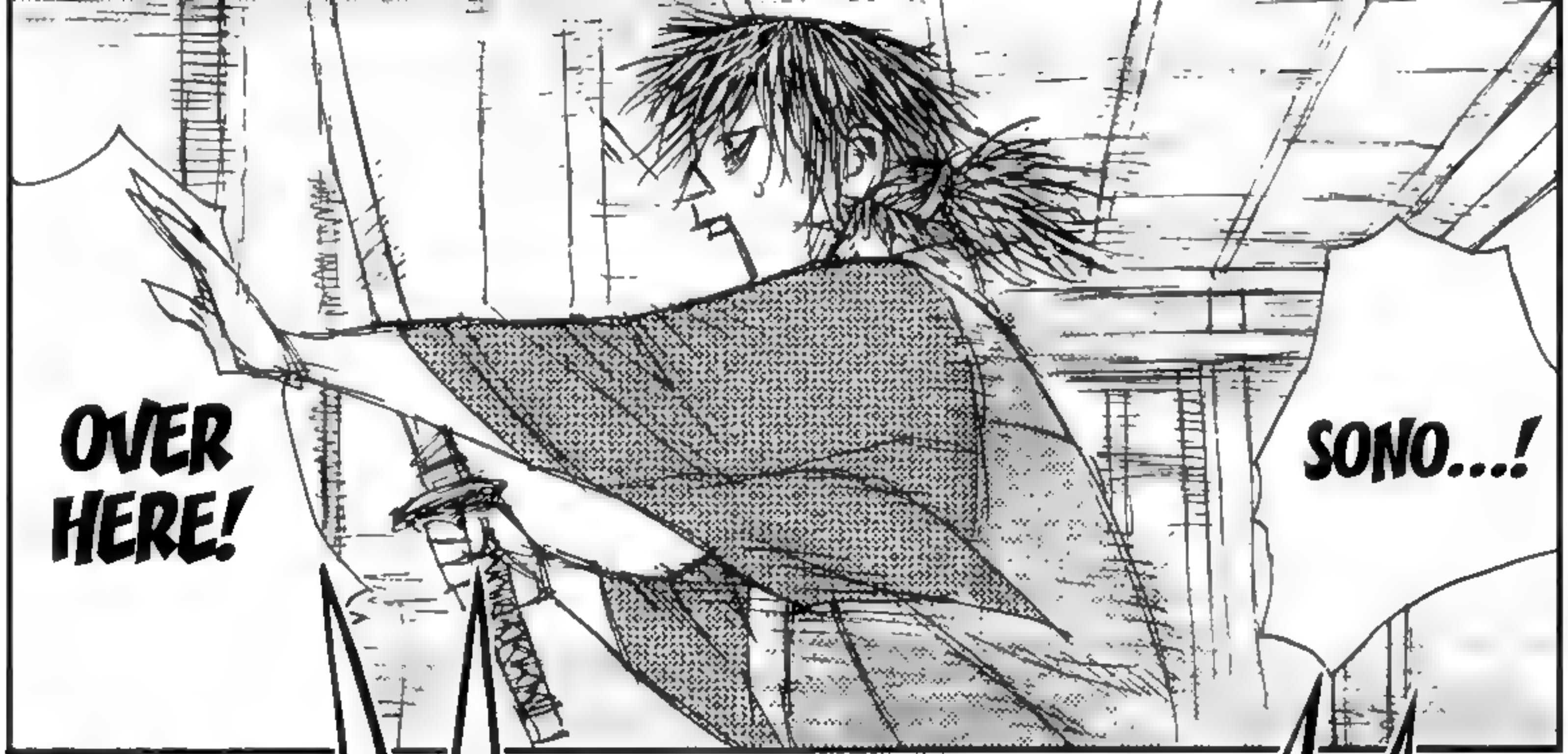
HURRY UP!

**SNAP
OUT OF
IT!**

**[[[[[
FFK!**

**SNAP
OUT OF
IT!**

**[[[[[
FFK!**



**OVER
HERE!**

SONO...!



SFX:
crunch



**TOO
CLOSE...!**

SFX:
clatter,
bang



Top SFX:
slash, dash

SFX:
stumble,
bang



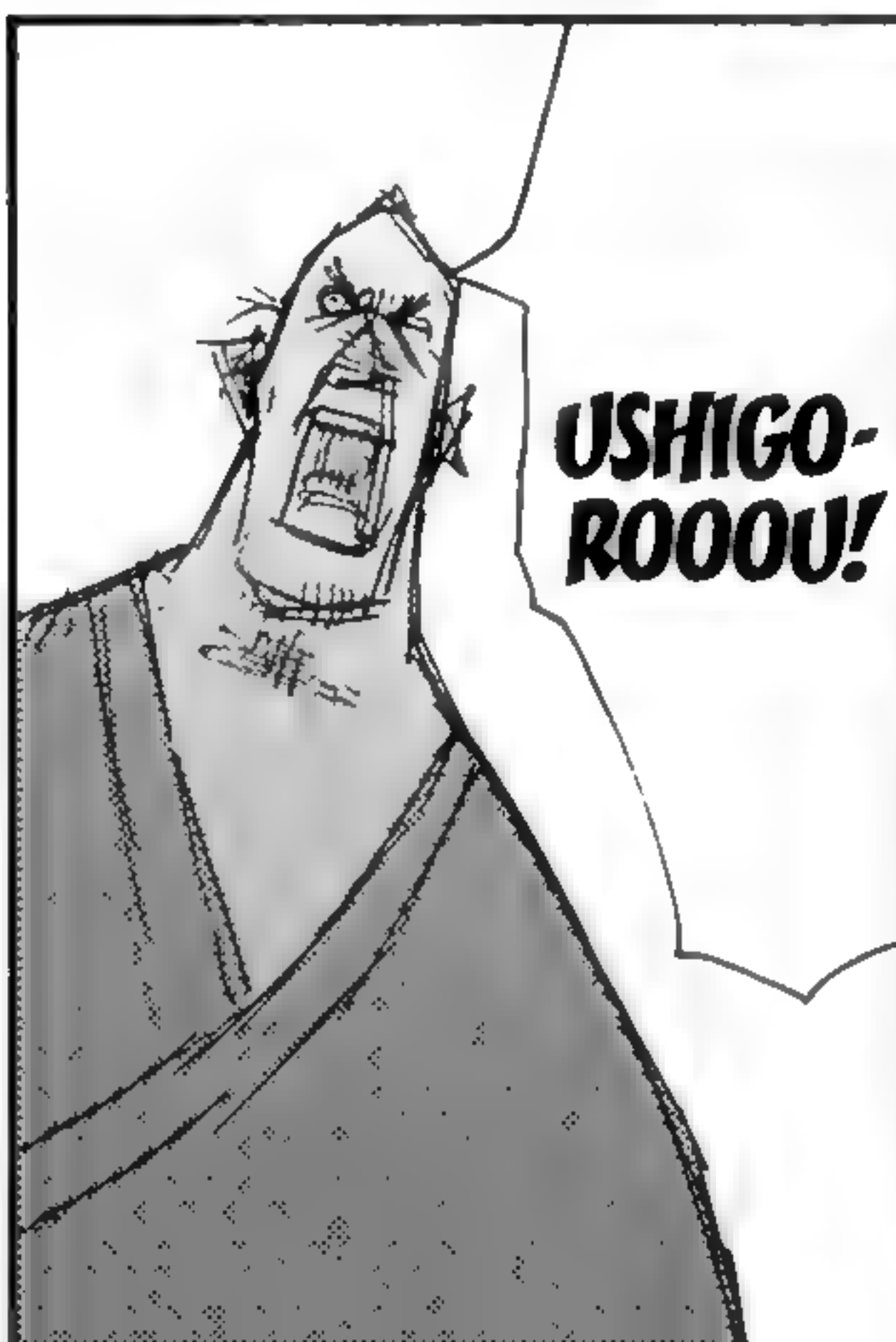
**I HAVE
PLENTY OF
ENERGY
LEFT!**

**RUNNING
AROUND
IS FUTILE,
USHIGOROU!**



**THAT IS
UNFATHOMABLE
TO THE LIKES OF
AN AMATEUR
LIKE YOU...**

**MY REGULAR
TRAINING GIVES
ME STAMINA...**



**USHIGO-
ROOOO!**



HAH?!



**SONO
WON'T JUST
BE POURING
ME DRINKS!**

**KEEP THIS
UP, AND
I'LL HAVE
TO TAKE
ANOTHER
ROUTE!**



**COME OUT
HERE AND
PUT AN END
TO THIS!**

**IF YOU
DON'T LIKE
THAT,**



EH?



**STOP
TALKIN'
SHIT!**

**MR.
USHI-
GOROU.**

**SHUT UP,
IMUTARD!**



**YOU
LISTEN
HERE!**



**AND I'LL
LEAVE ON
MY OWN!**

**PUT EVEN A
SCRATCH ON
SONO...**




**IT'S
SWARMIN'
WITH
SATSUMA
OUTSIDE!**

**EITHER WAY,
IMUTA, YOU
WON'T BE
LEAVIN' THIS
BROTHEL
ALIVE!**



**WHAT
?!**

W-



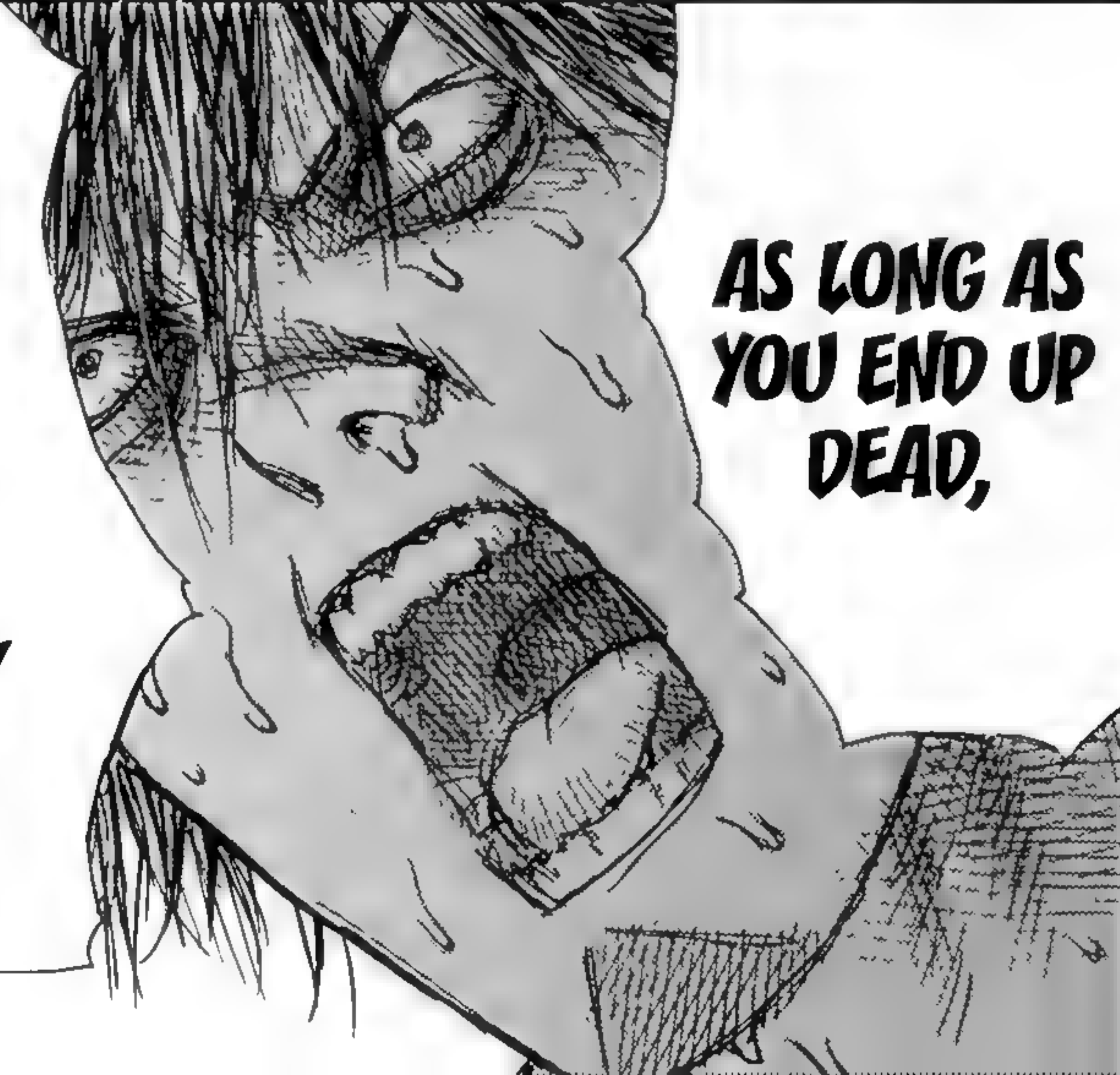
**YOU WON'T
BE ABLE TO
KILL ME!**

**SO IF I
LEAVE,**



**TO AVENGE
YOUR LITTLE
SISTEEEEER?!**

**DID YOU
NOT COME
HERE...**



**I'LL
TAKE IT,
DUMB-
AAAASS!**

**AS LONG AS
YOU END UP
DEAD,**

SFX:
pop x3

**C-CAN YOU...
CALL YOUR...
YOURSELF...**

H- How dare...

HOW...

SFX:
huff x3

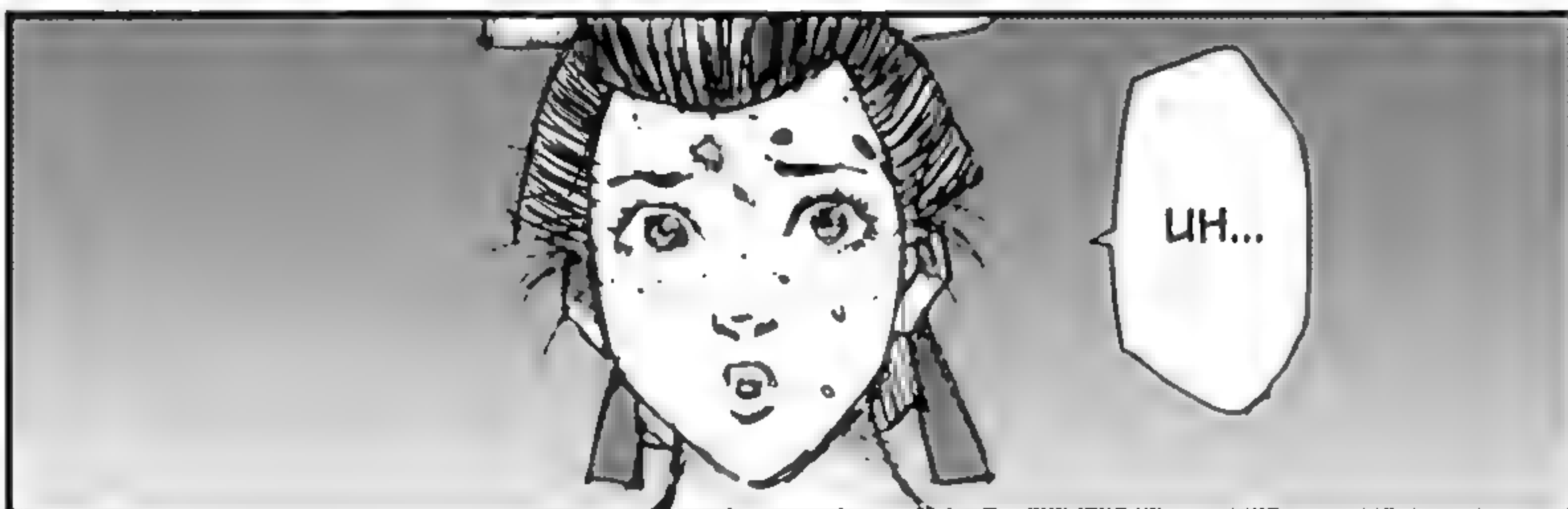
**A
SAMU-
RAA-
AAI-
!!!**

USHI-
GOROU IS
A PEAS-
ANT...

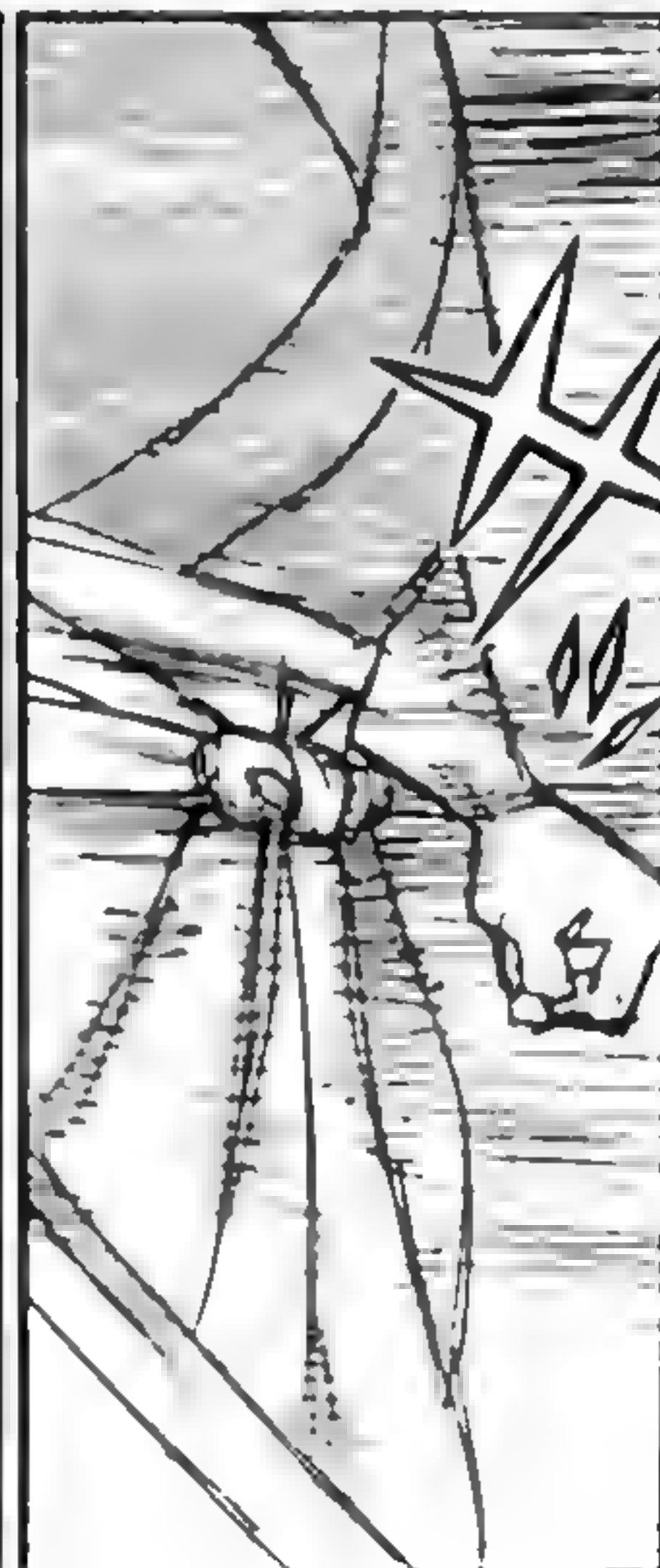
WAIT,
NO...



SFX:
pew



SFX:
grab



SFX:
Hup

I'LL
CARRY
YOU TO
THE BACK
ROOM.


THAT WAS
JUST A
BLUFF,
DON'T
WORRY.

EH?

PEASANT!

**LISTEN
UP,**

**WORRY NOT,
SONO WILL
SUFFER NO
HARM!**



**SWEAR TO ME.
YOU WILL NOT
LEAVE THE
BROTHEL UNTIL
THIS FIGHT
IS OVER!**

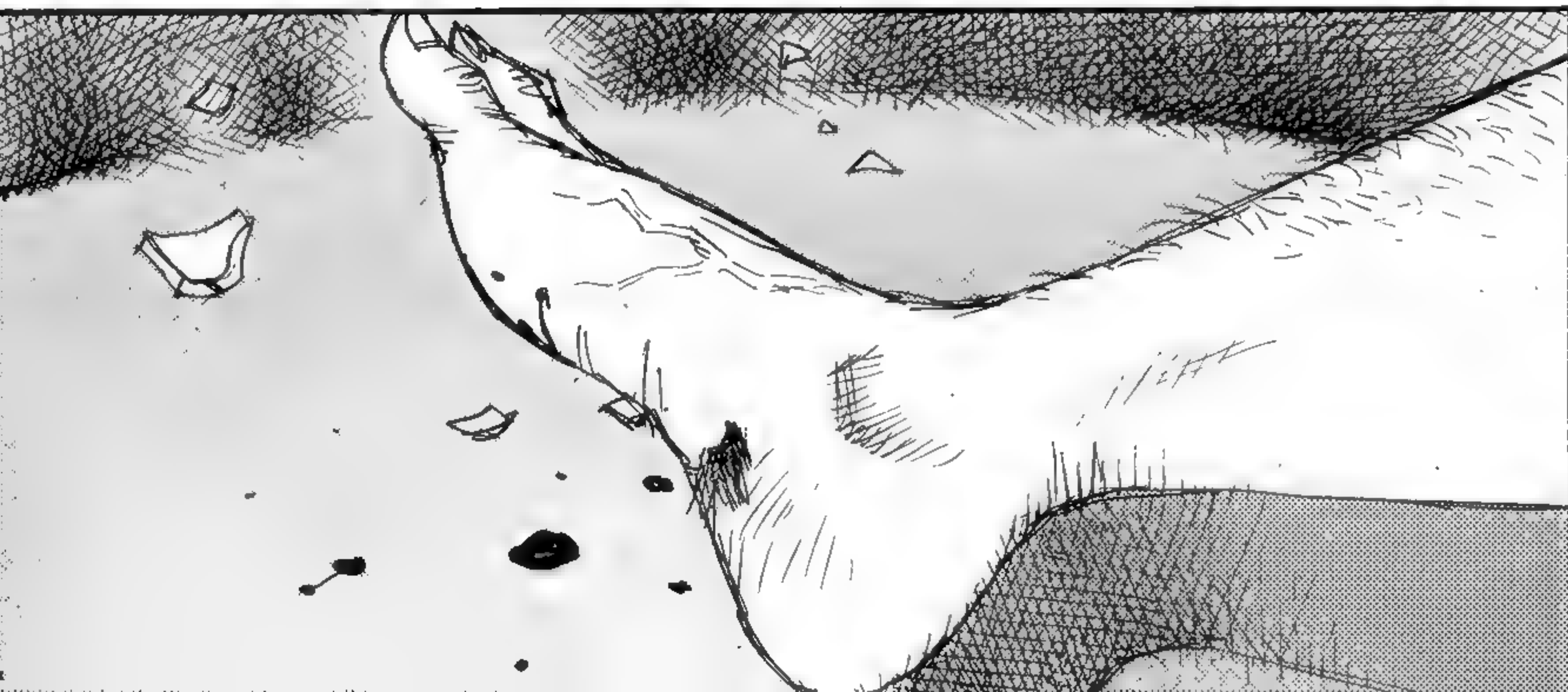
**IN RETURN,
IF YOU'RE
REALLY A
WARRIOR OF
THE ONE
STRIKE, ONE
KILL SQUAD,
DON'T SPOUT
THAT DRIVEL
ABOUT
GIVING UP!**



**NO...
I CAN'T
LEAVE.**

**UNTIL I
AVENGE
CHIYO... AND
GET SONO
OUTTA HERE...
I WON'T
LEAVE...**

CLEARLY...



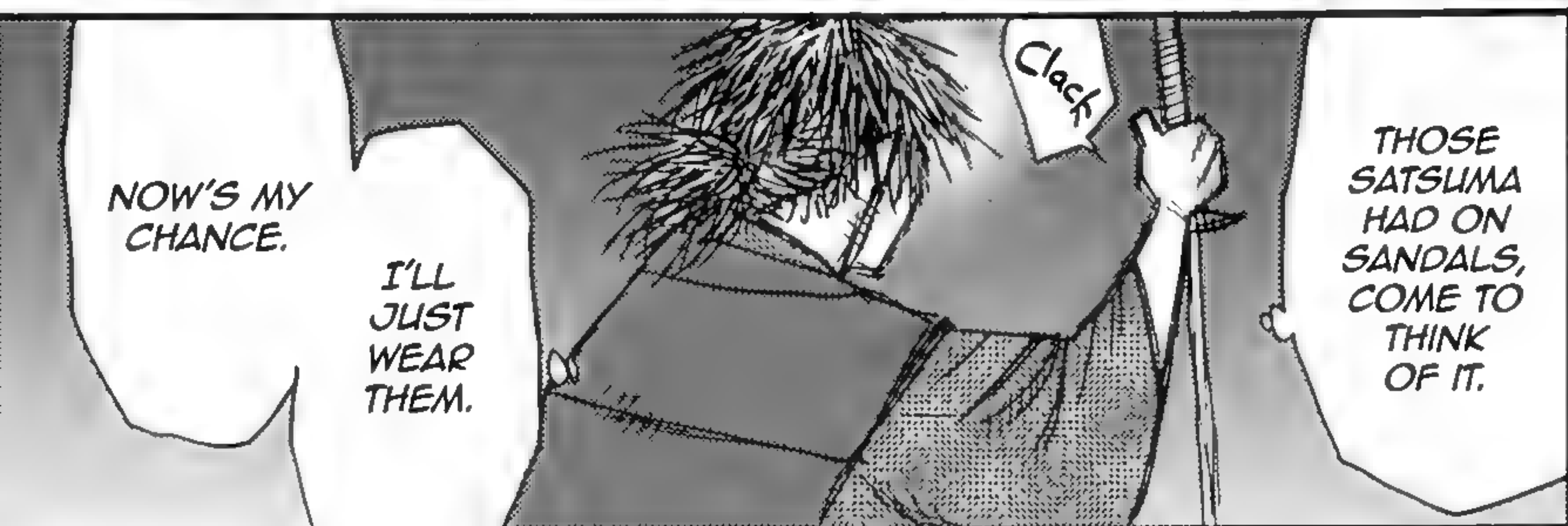


I HAVE TO
KEEP RUNNIN'
AROUND TILL
IMUTA'S
WORN OUT...



I WON'T
BE ABLE
TO MOVE
SOON AT
THIS RATE.

SHIT... I
STEPPED
ON ONE
AGAIN.



NOW'S MY
CHANCE.

I'LL
JUST
WEAR
THEM.

Clack

THOSE
SATSUMA
HAD ON
SANDALS,
COME TO
THINK
OF IT.



HEY...
DON'T
BE SO
ROUGH!

KYAH!

SFX:
whomp



THE
BLADE'S
GETTING
QUITE
CHIPPED...

NOT
GOOD...

SFX:
clack



YEAH...

MR.
IMUTA.

IS YOUR
TUMMY
WOUND
ALRIGHT?
YOU'RE
BLEEDIN'
SO MUCH.



THERE'S
ONE HERE
AS WELL.

HMM,



Roll

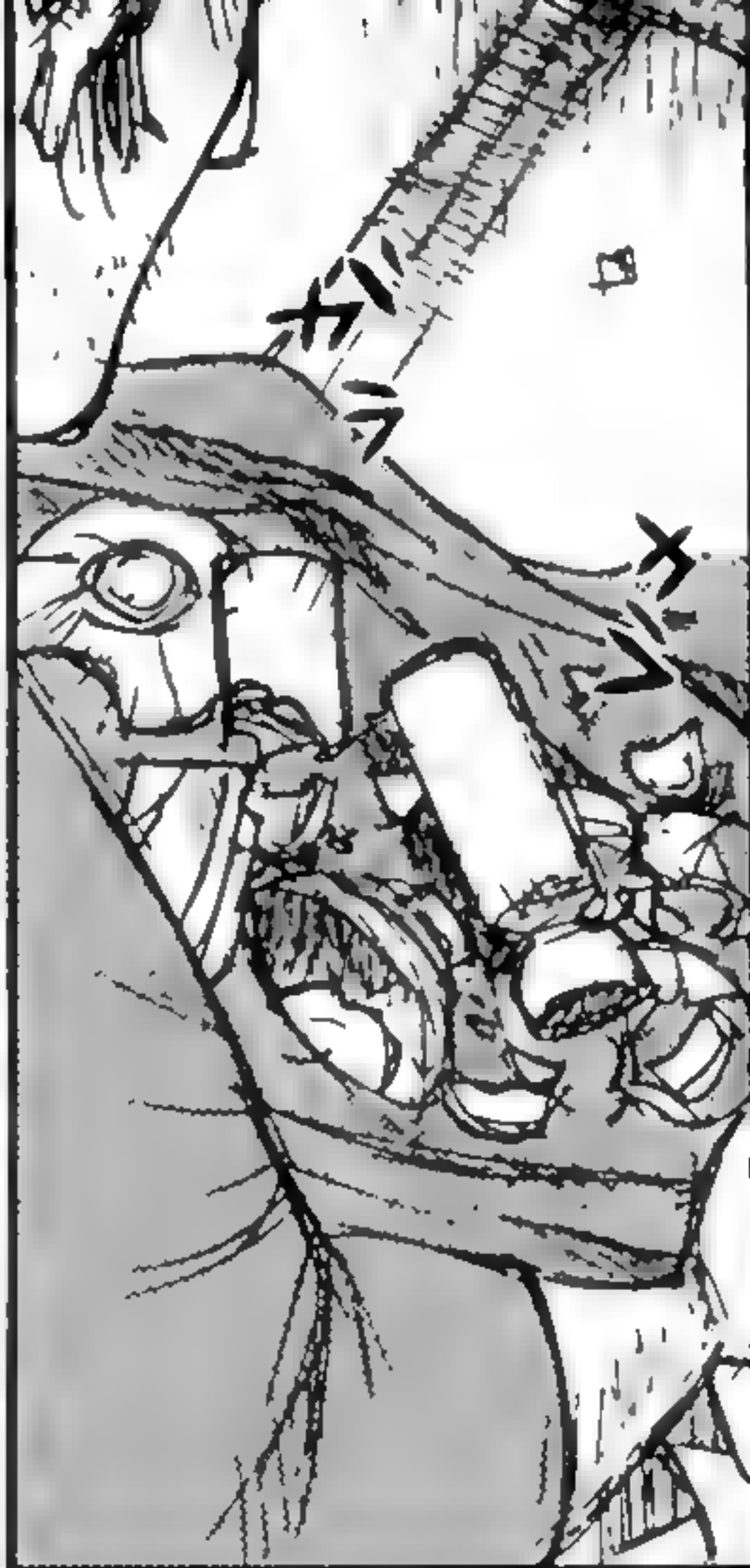
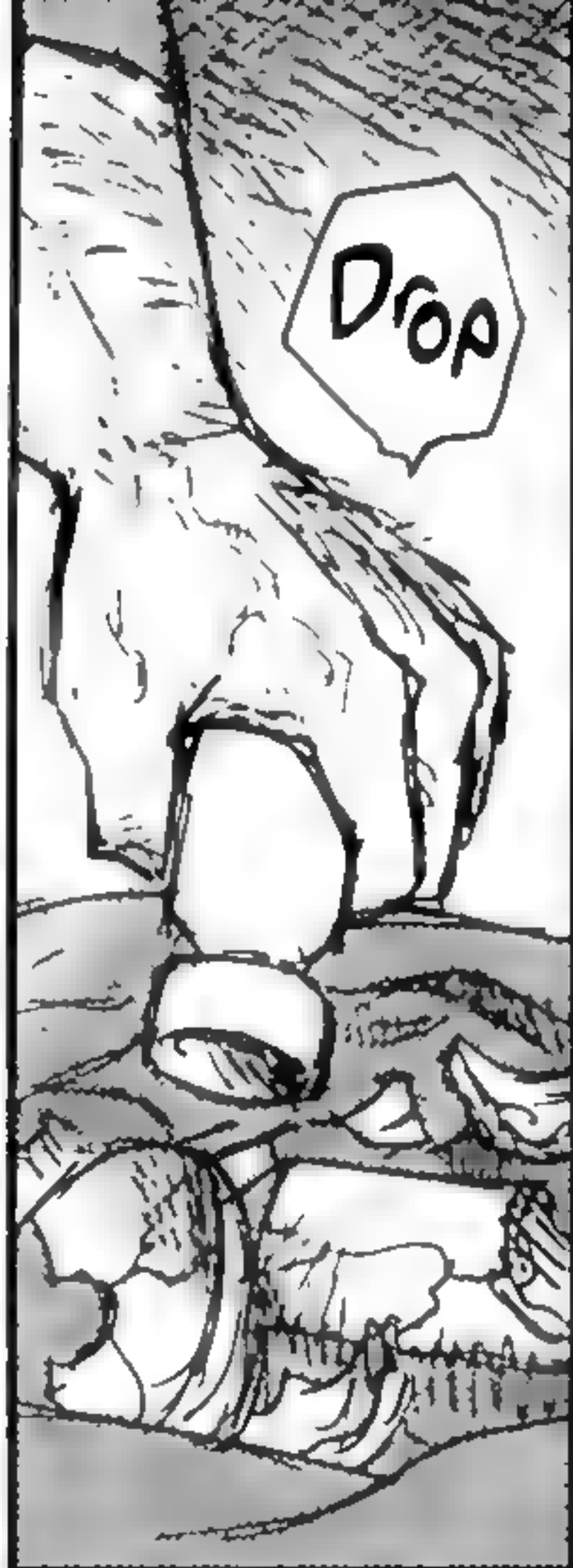


I KNOW...

UNLIKE
A SWORD,
I CAN'T
REPLACE
THIS
BODY.

SFX:
rustle

SFX:
rustle,
clatter



SFX:
tighten



USE ANY-
THING YOU
CAN FIND.
WEAPONS
AREN'T
LIMITED TO
SWORDS
AFTER ALL.

ONLY TAKE
ATTACKS SO
YOUR OWN
MAY RISE.

SFX:
whoosh



RIGHT.

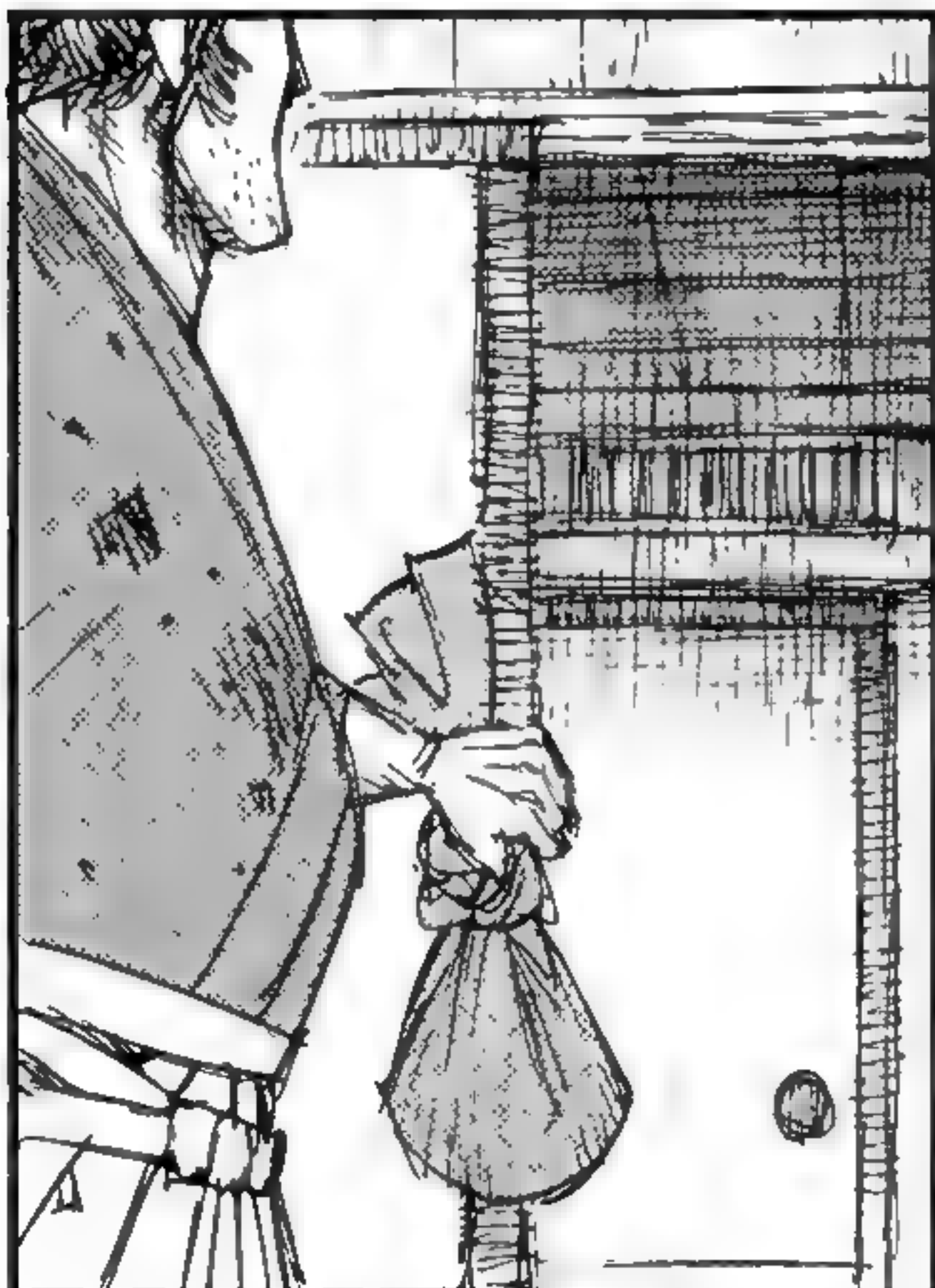
IT'S
SUN
TZU'S
ART OF
WAR.

STAY
BACK.

SFX:
smash,
shatter,
bang x3



SFX:
clack



BUT IT
COULD
DO WITH
MORE.



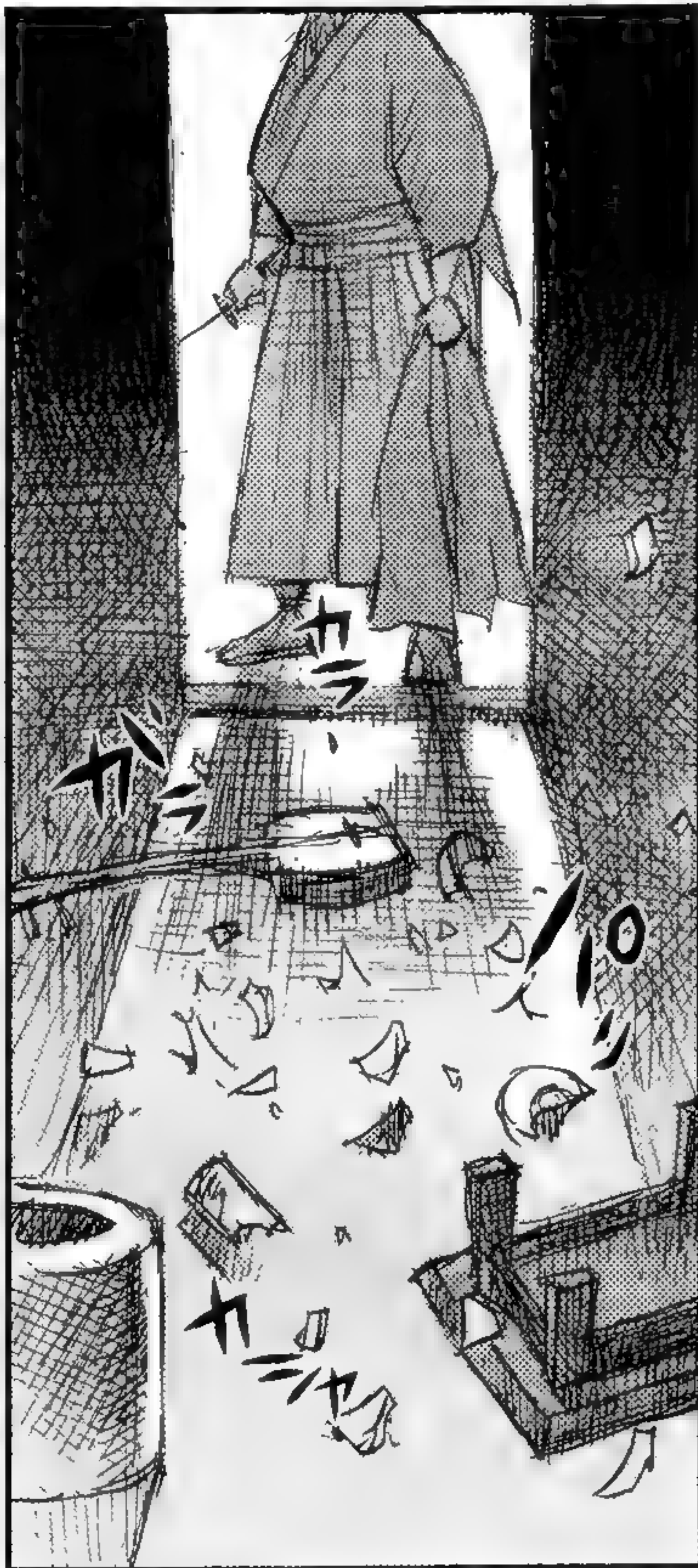
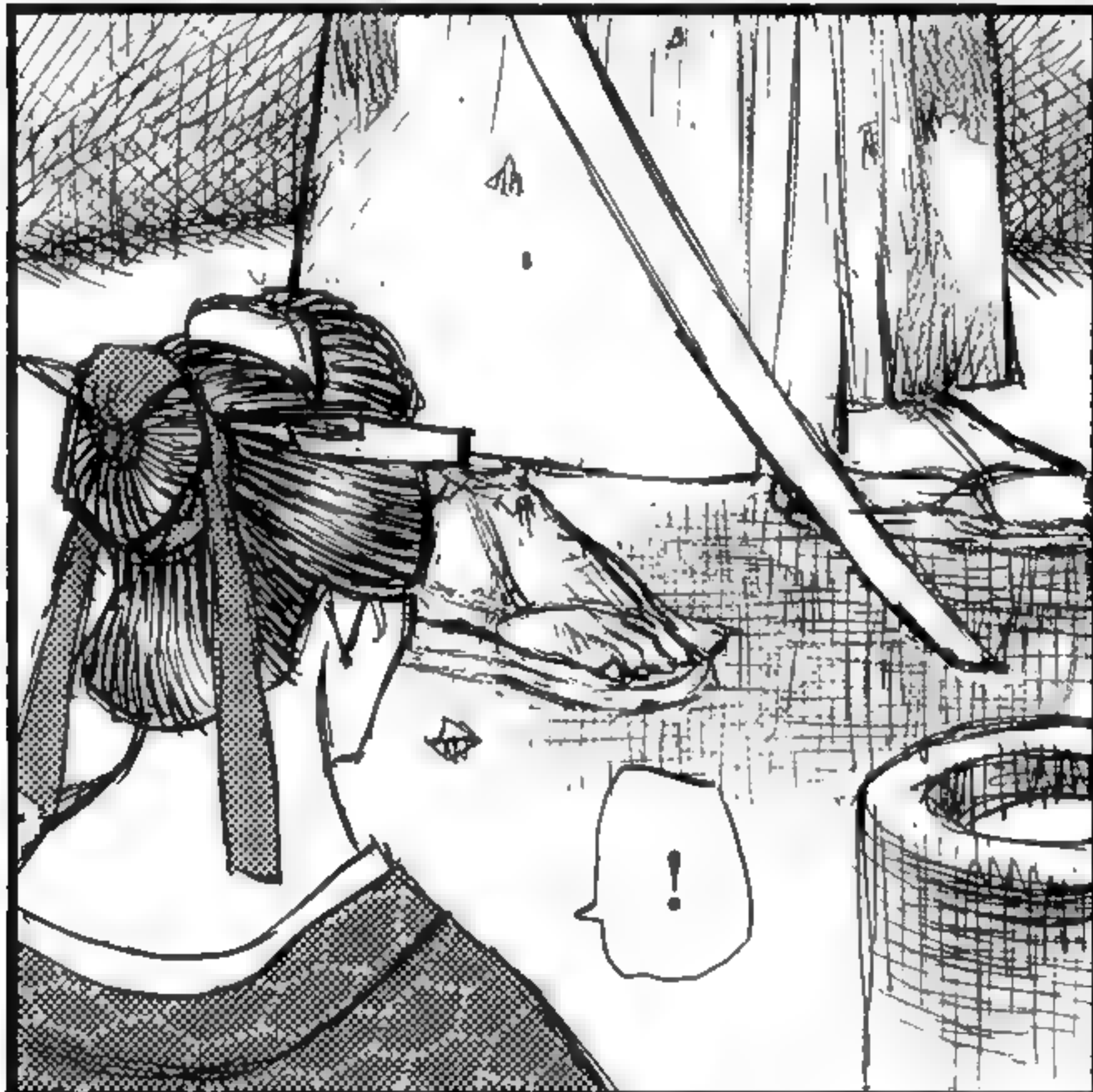
I BESTREW
THIS ROOM
EARLIER,



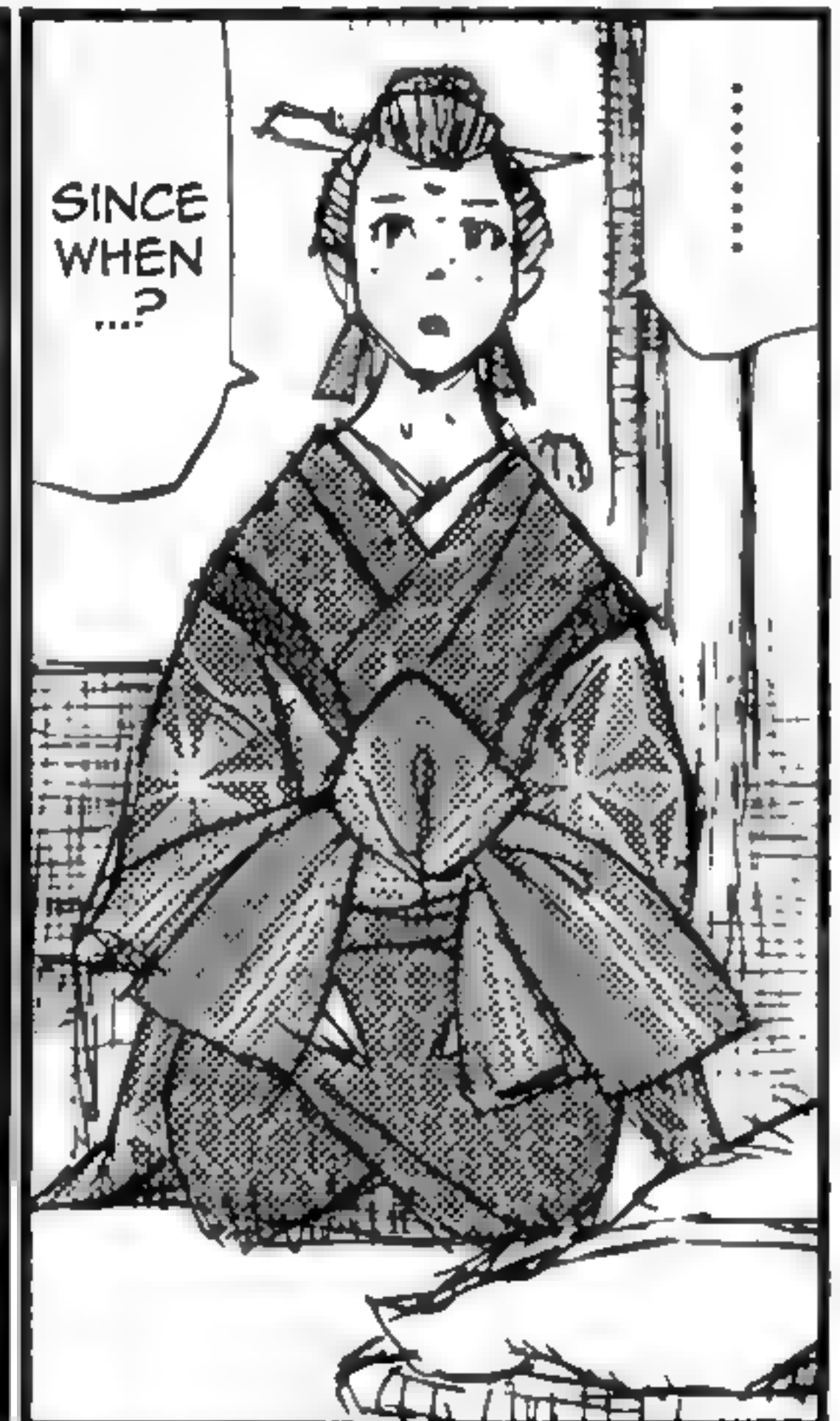
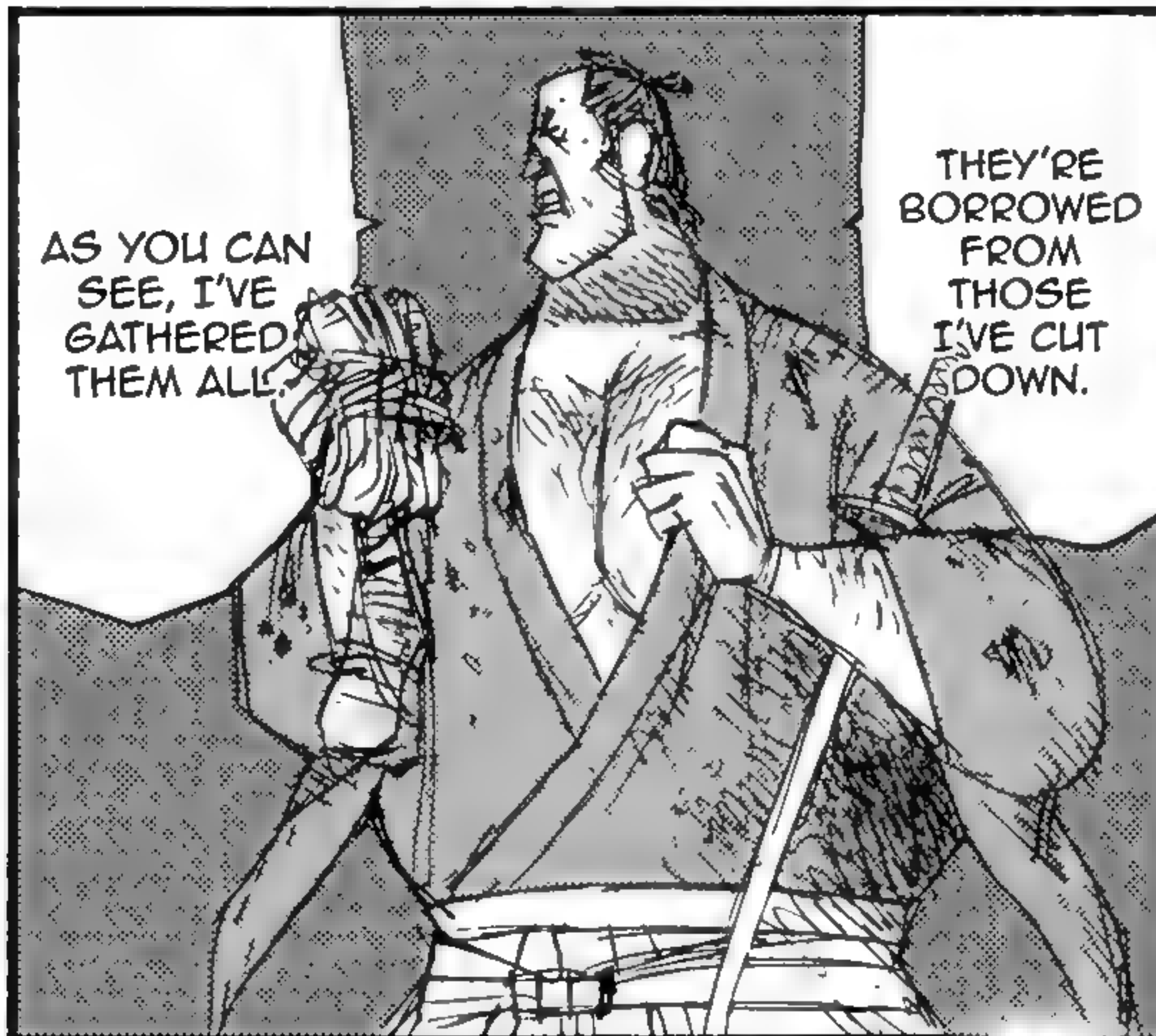
SFX:
scatter

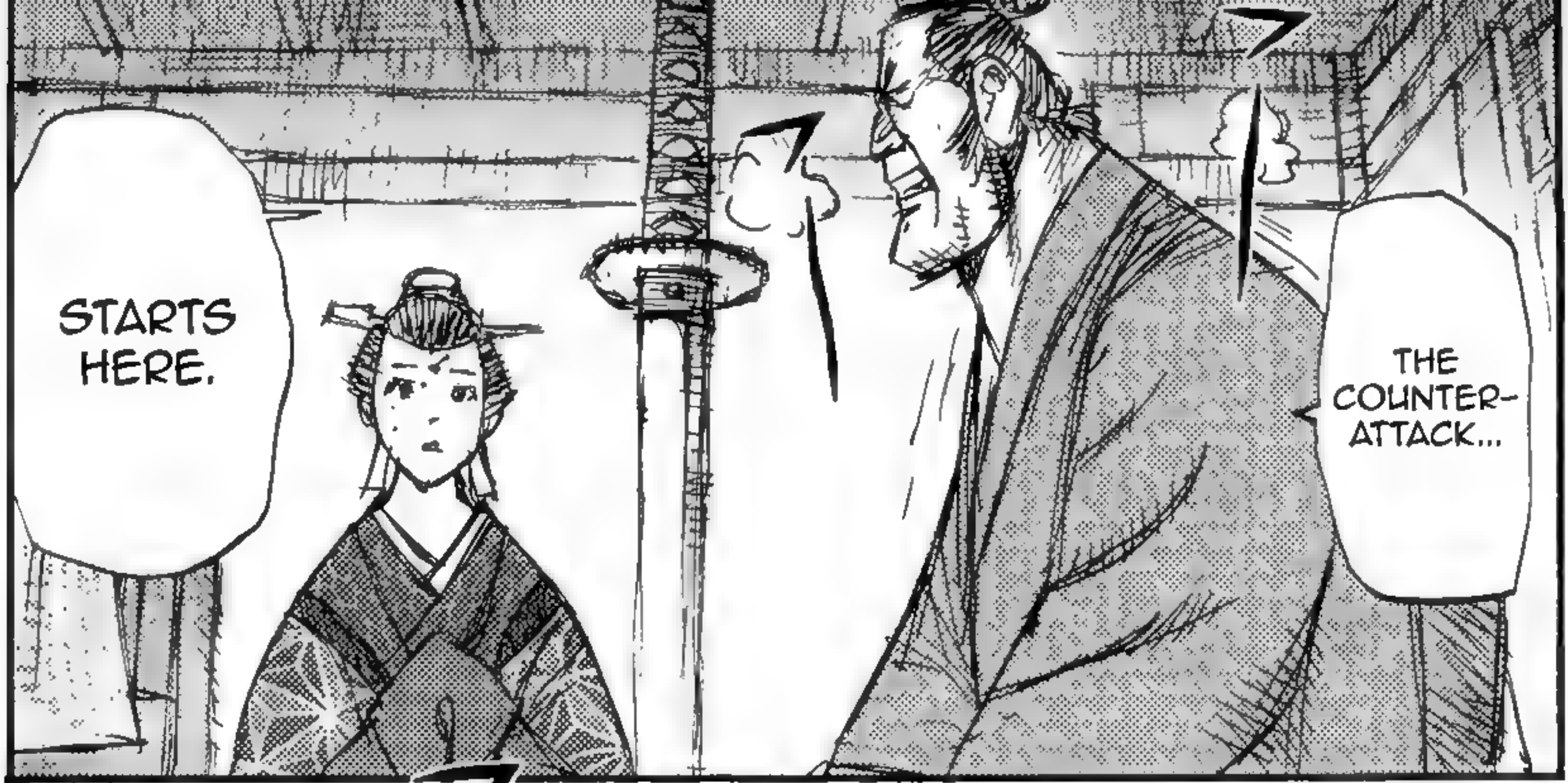


SFX:
clack



SFX:
clatter,
rattle,
crack,
crash

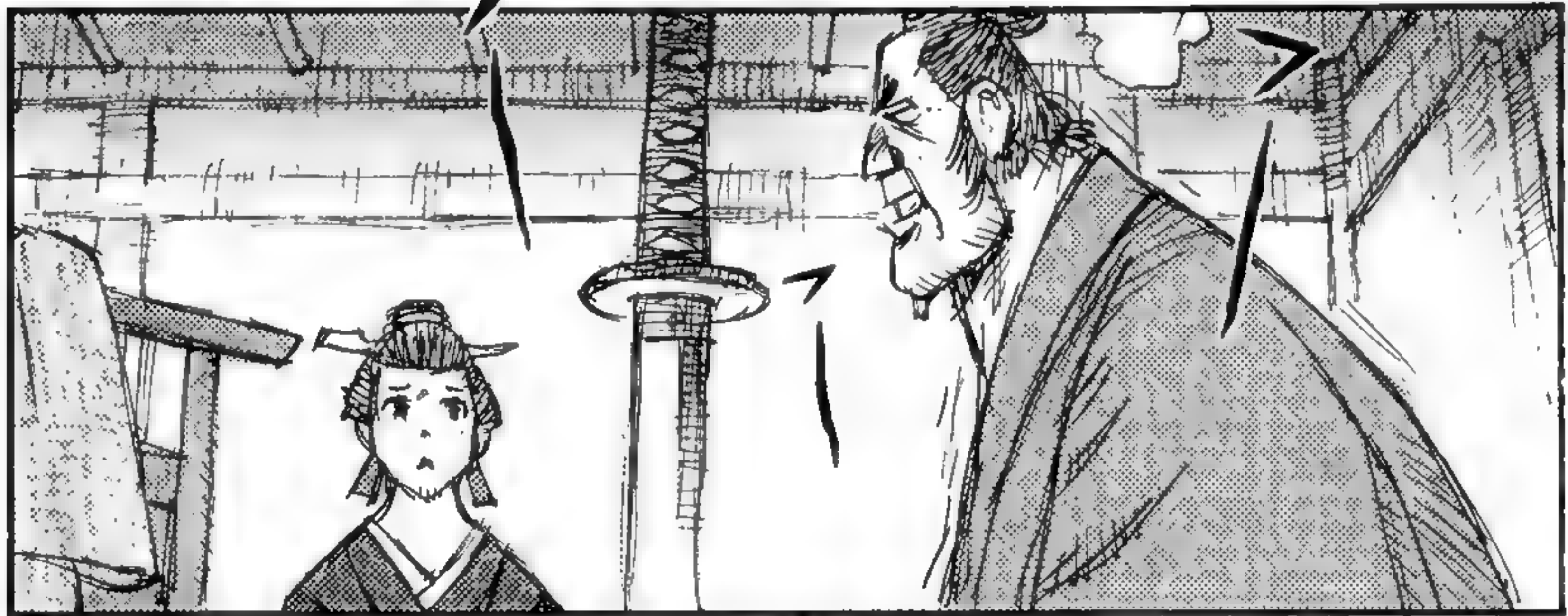




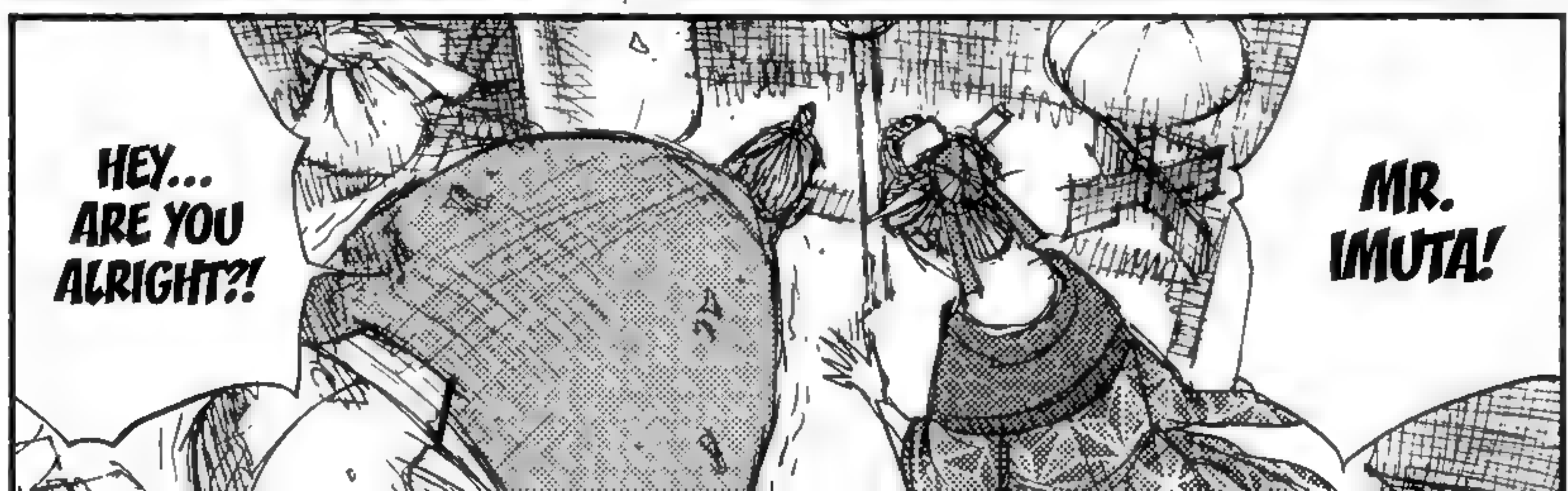
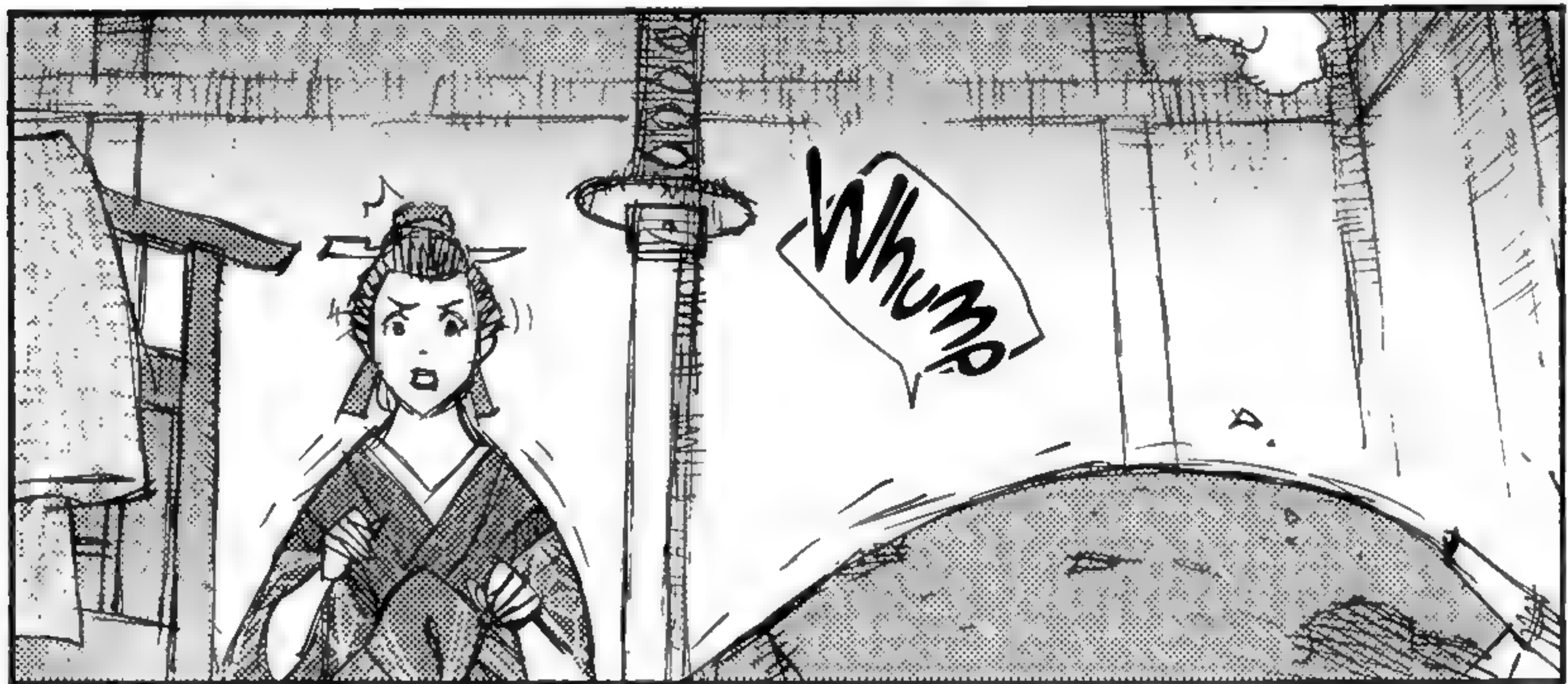
SFX:
Huff x2

STARTS
HERE.

THE
COUNTER-
ATTACK...



SFX:
Huff x3

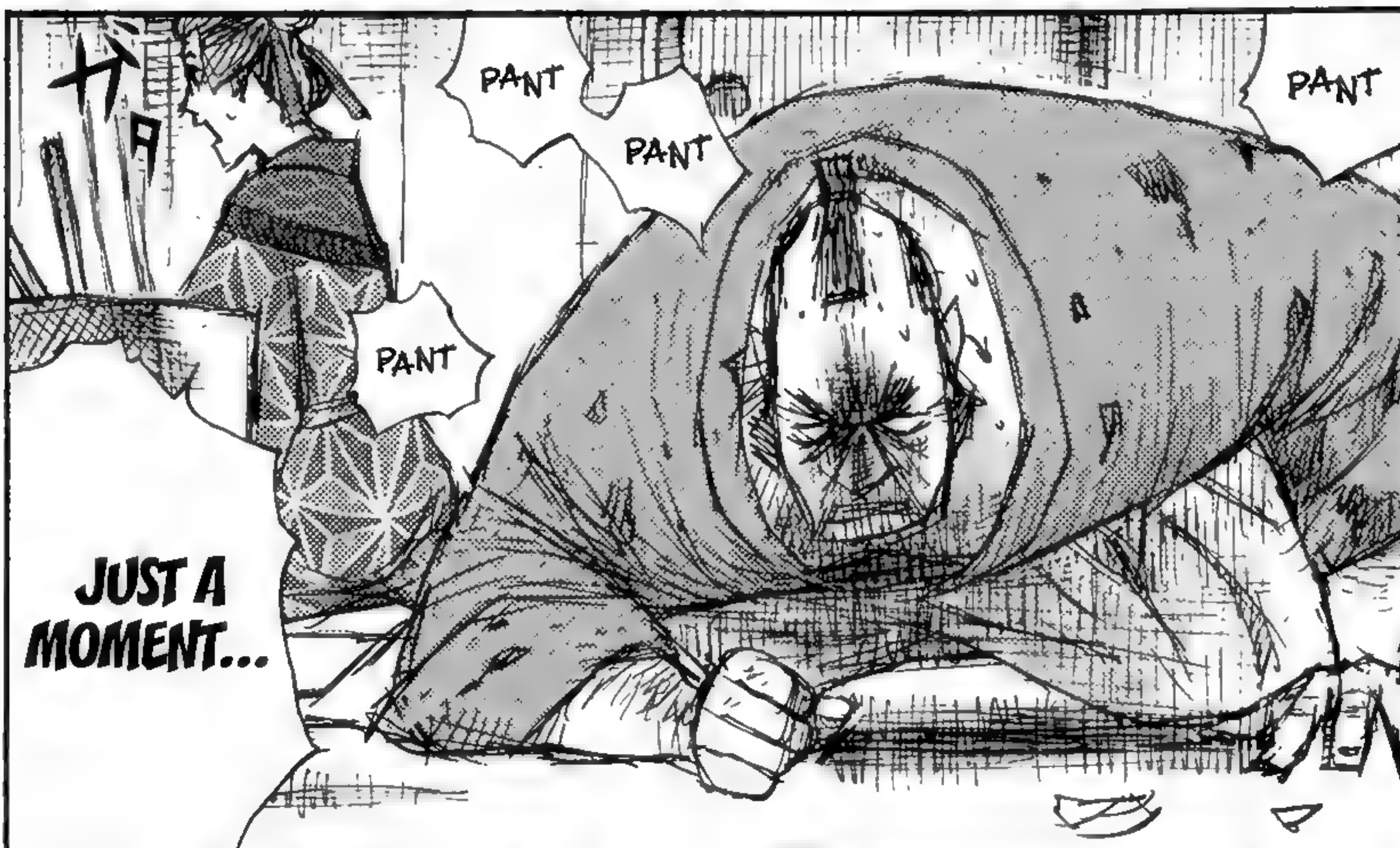


HEY...
ARE YOU
ALRIGHT?!

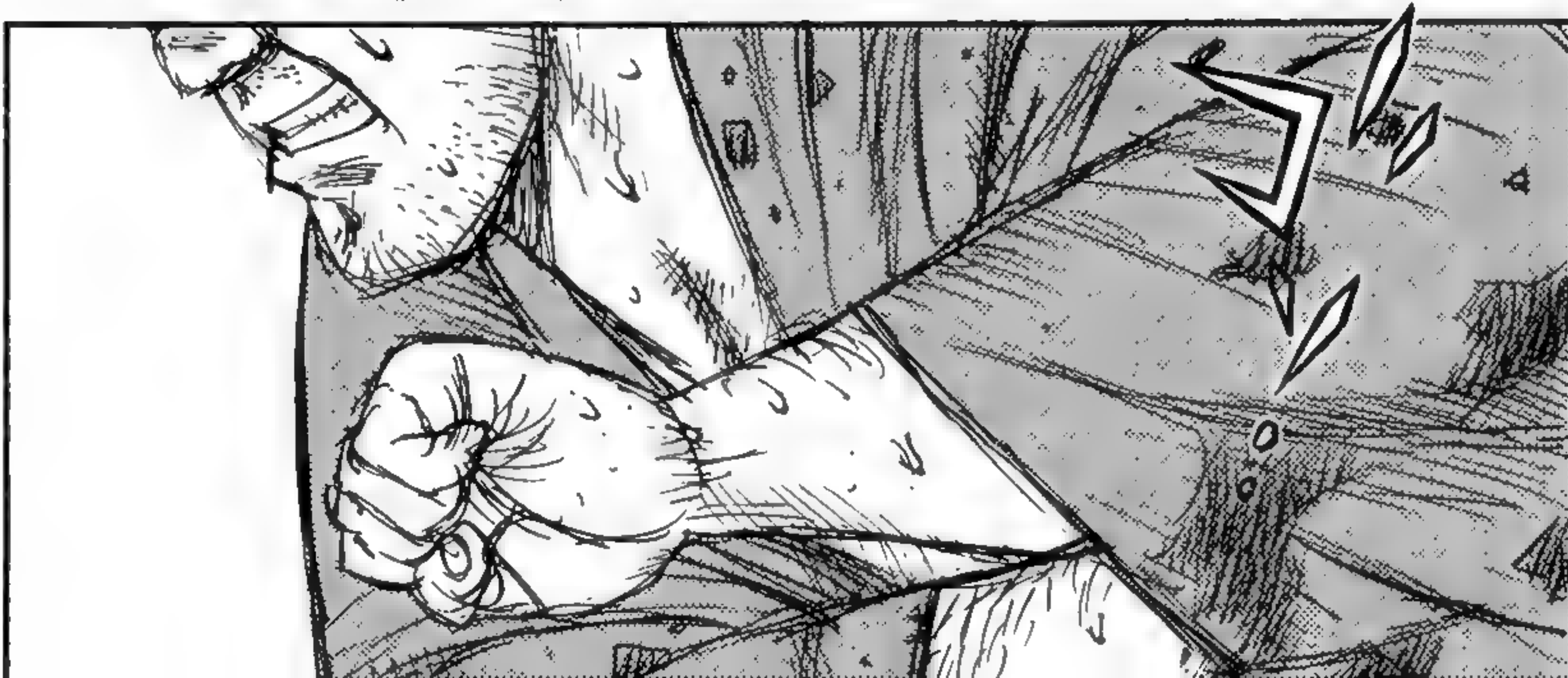
MR.
IMUTA!

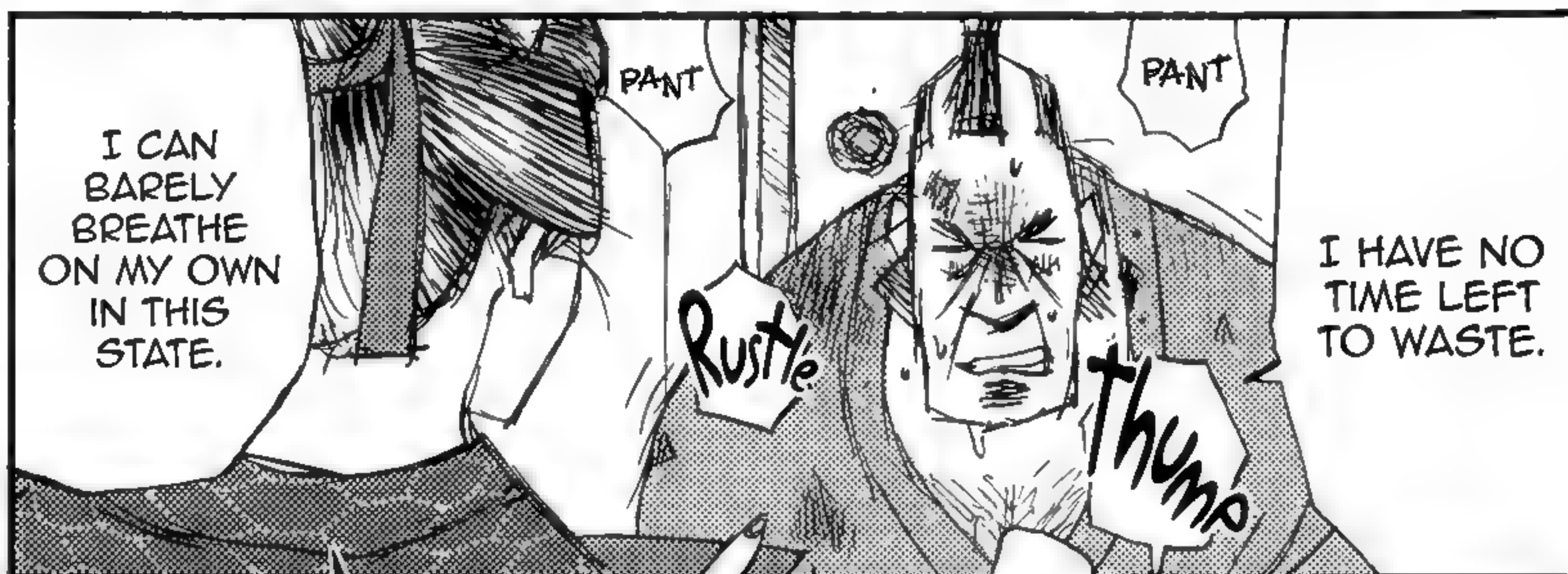


SFX:
clatter

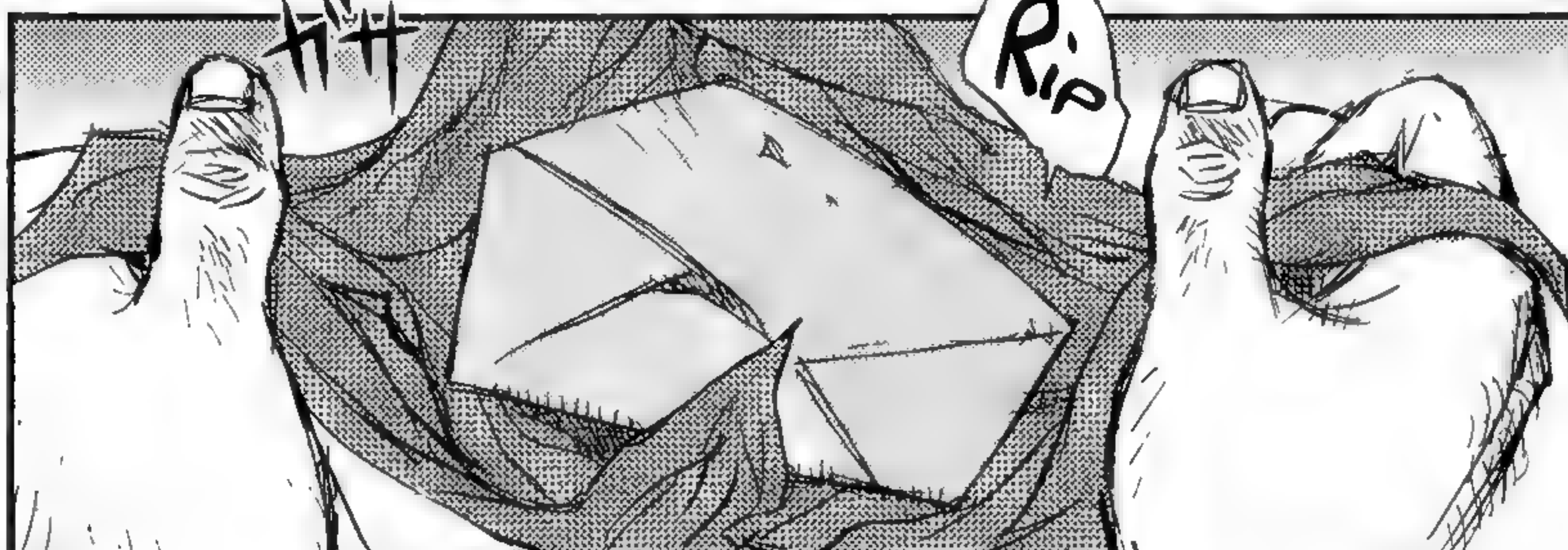


SFX:
rustle





SFX:
rustle





HASN'T
MR. USHI-
GOROU
RUN AWAY
BY NOW?

OKAY,
BUT...

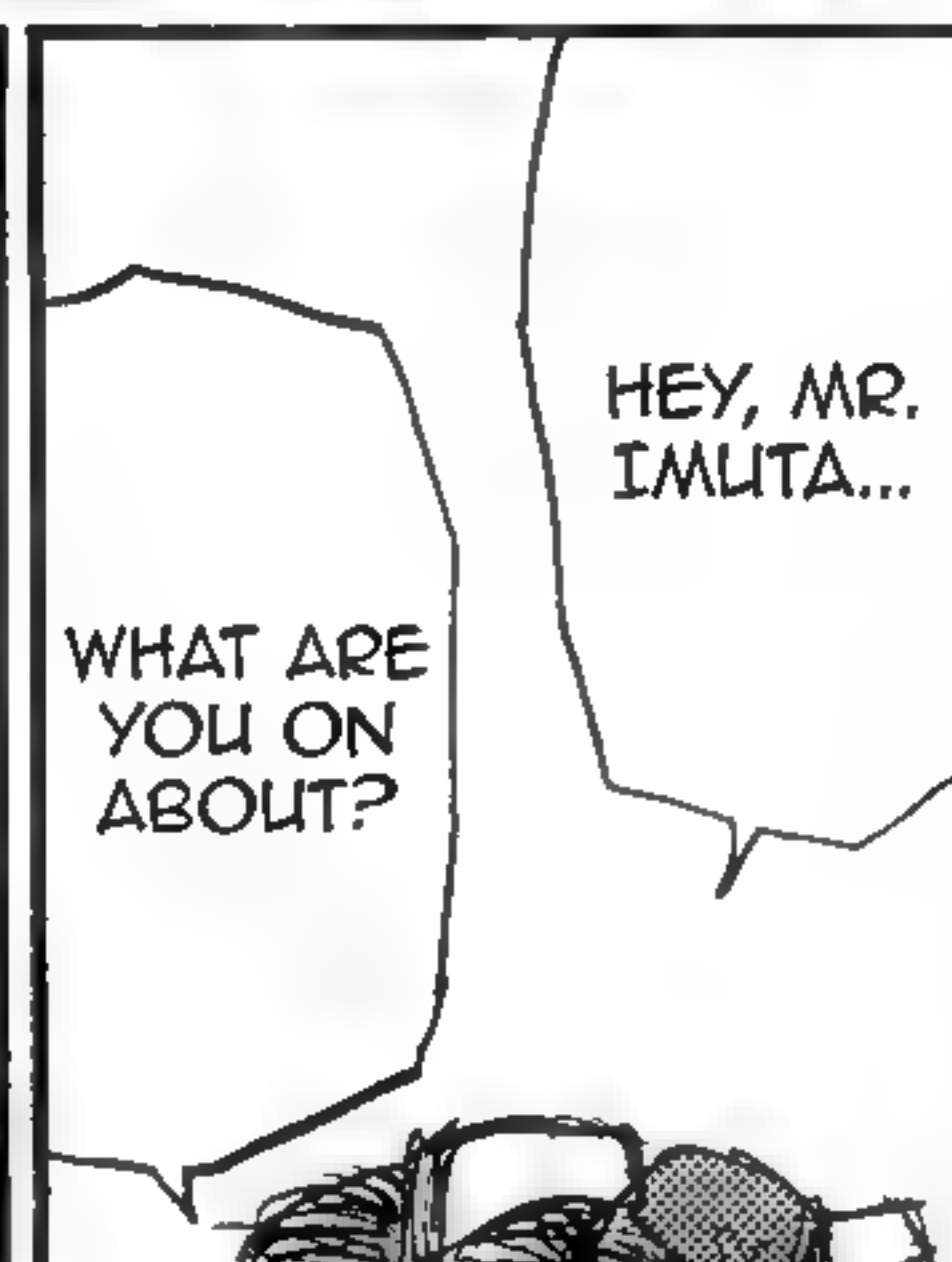


SFX:
gulp



SONO...
THERE'S
NO WAY
HE'D LEAVE
WITHOUT
YOU.

WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING?



SOMETHING
BEAUTIFUL.

LOVE
IS...

STOP IT!

HAS BEEN
A LOAD O'
TROUBLE!

BEIN'
DRAGGED
INTO ALL
THIS....!



I'M NOT PARTICULAR TO...



SONO...



I'VE GOTTA EARN MY KEEP AS WELL... IF IT'S TO HOLD ONTO A FAT PATRON, I'LL SPIN WHATEVER THEY WANT.



YOU'D
LITTER
SUCH
INANITY.

TO
PROTECT
USHI-
GOROU,



WHY
SHOULD
I HAVE TO
PROTECT
SOMEONE
LIKE HIM?!

IT'S
BECAUSE
OF HIM,
I'M STUCK
IN THIS
MESS!



NOT A
SINGLE THING
HAS GONE
RIGHT SINCE
MR. USHIGOROU
TURNED UP.

SERIOUSLY
THOUGH,
GIVE ME A
BREAK!



**HE DOESN'T
EVEN KNOW HOW TO
PLAY WITH WOMEN...
HOW DID HE GET THAT
MUCH MONEY?**

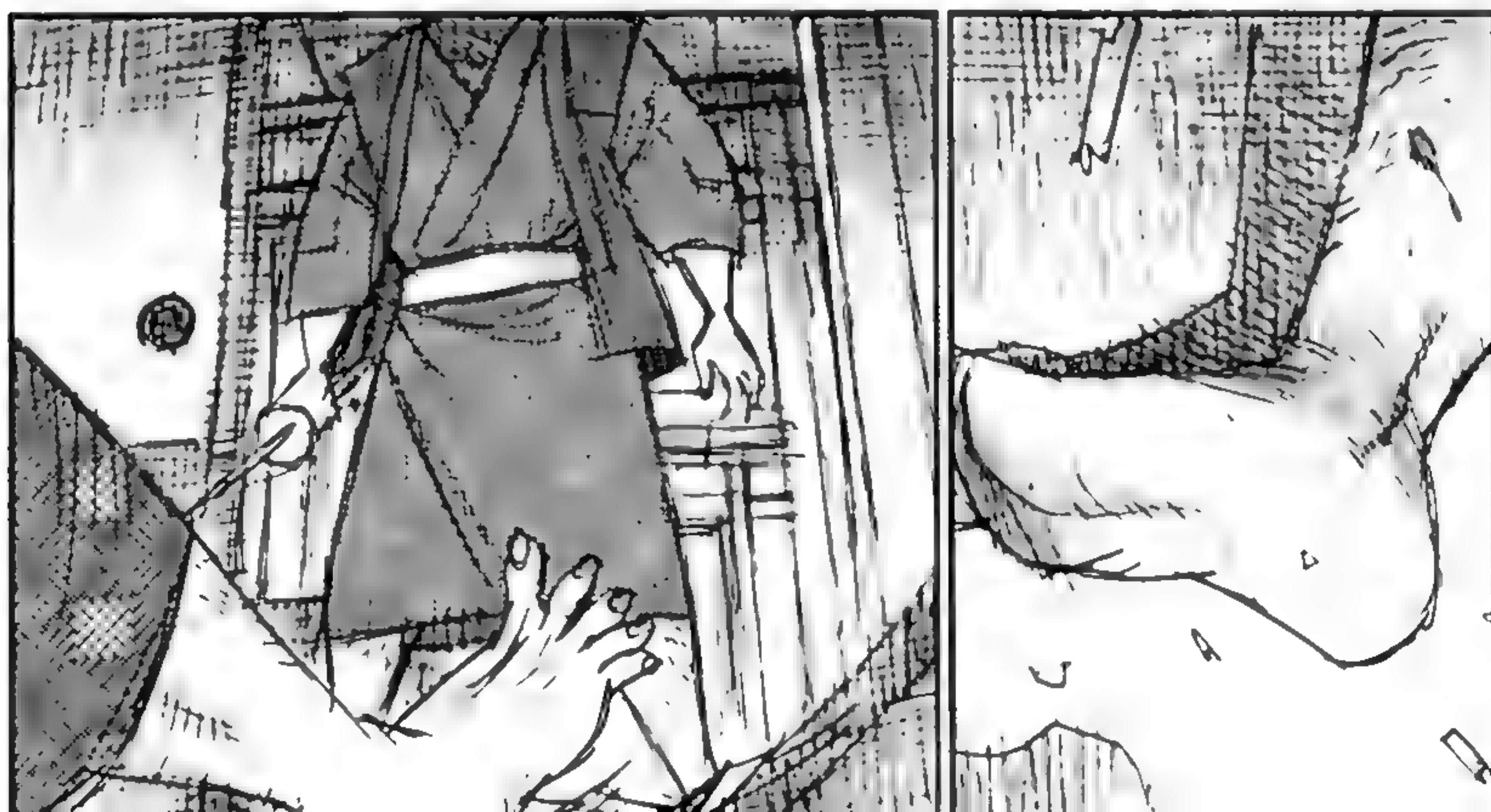
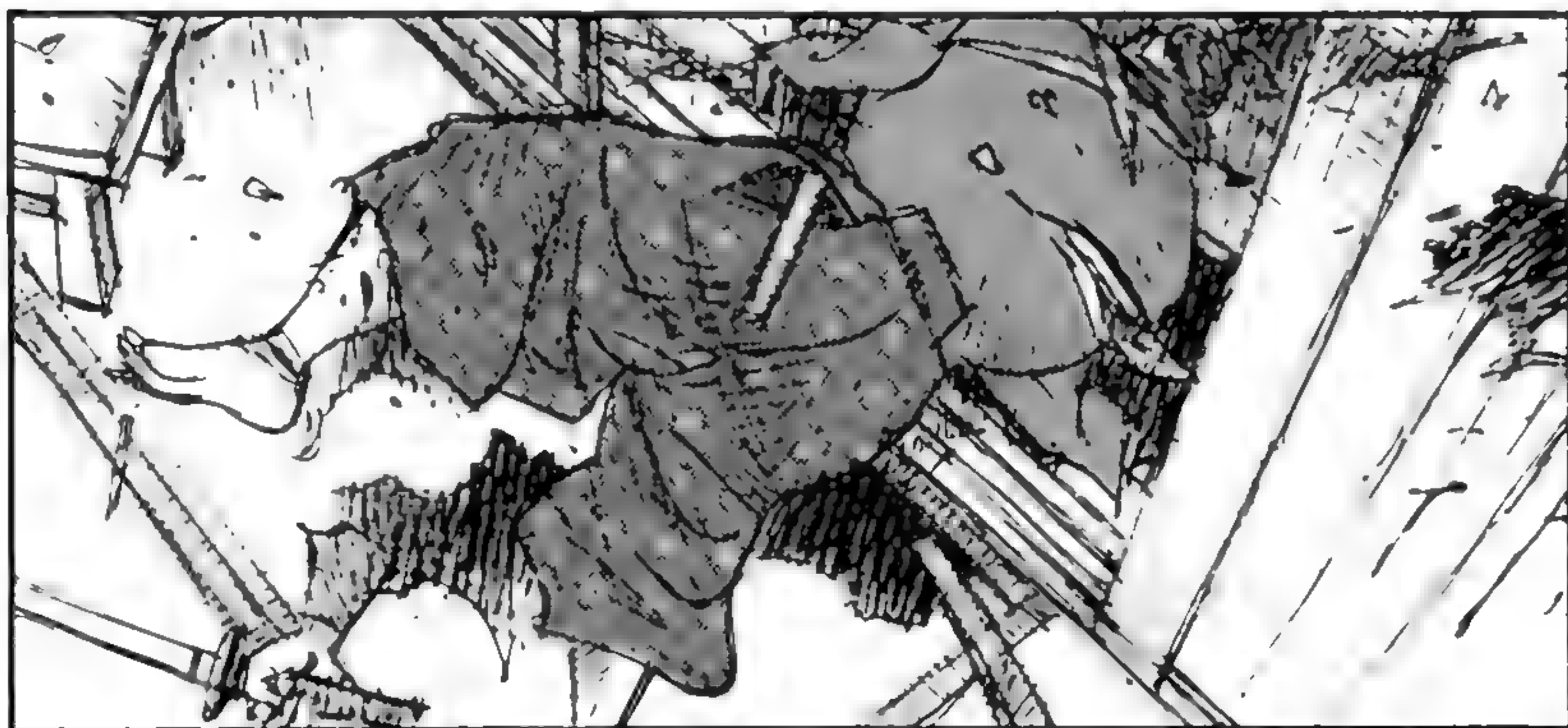
SFX:
Shrill

**PEASANTS
ARE PEASANTS
AFTER ALL!
ALL THEY DO
IS SMELL
LIKE SHIT!**

**I REALLY
CAN'T STAND
PEASANT
PATRONS.**

SFX:
roaaar

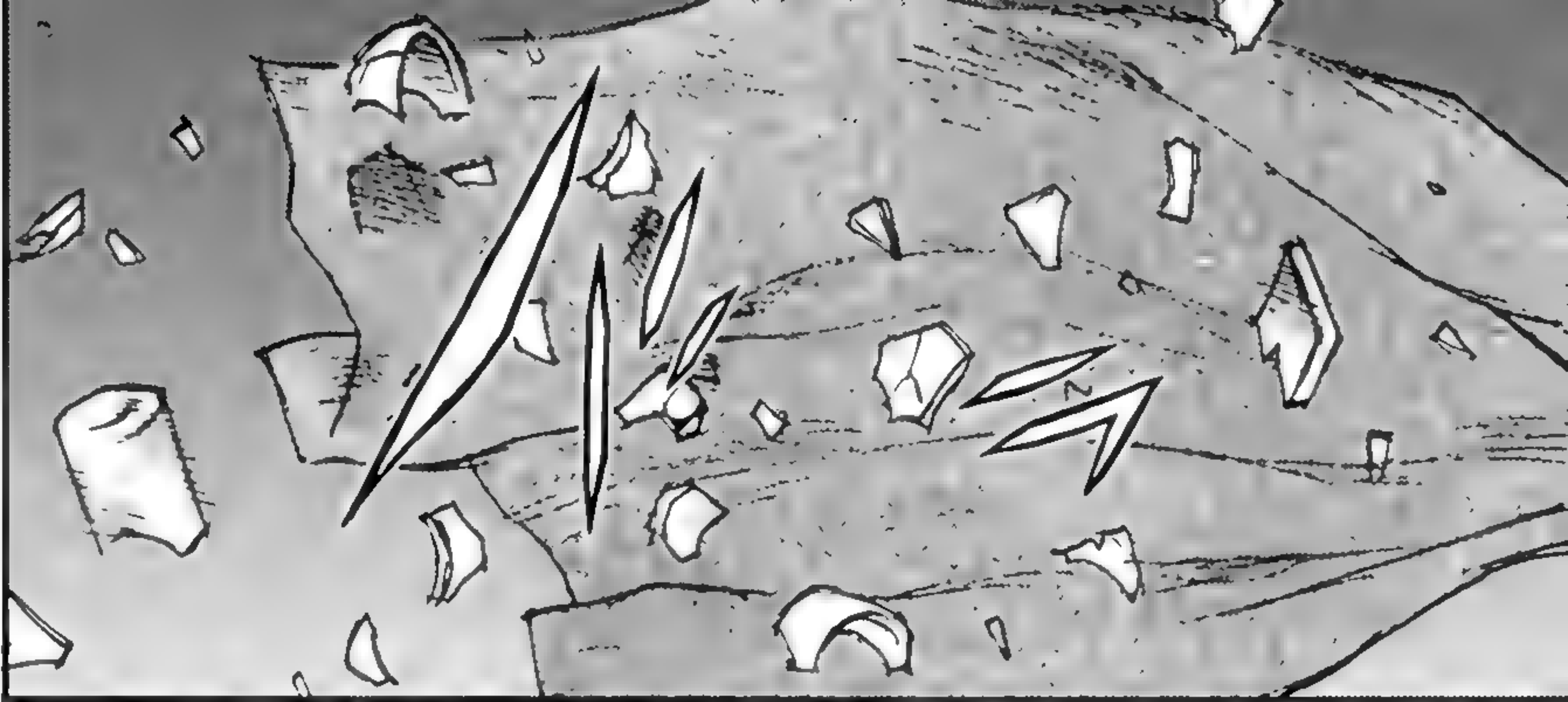








SFX:
scatter

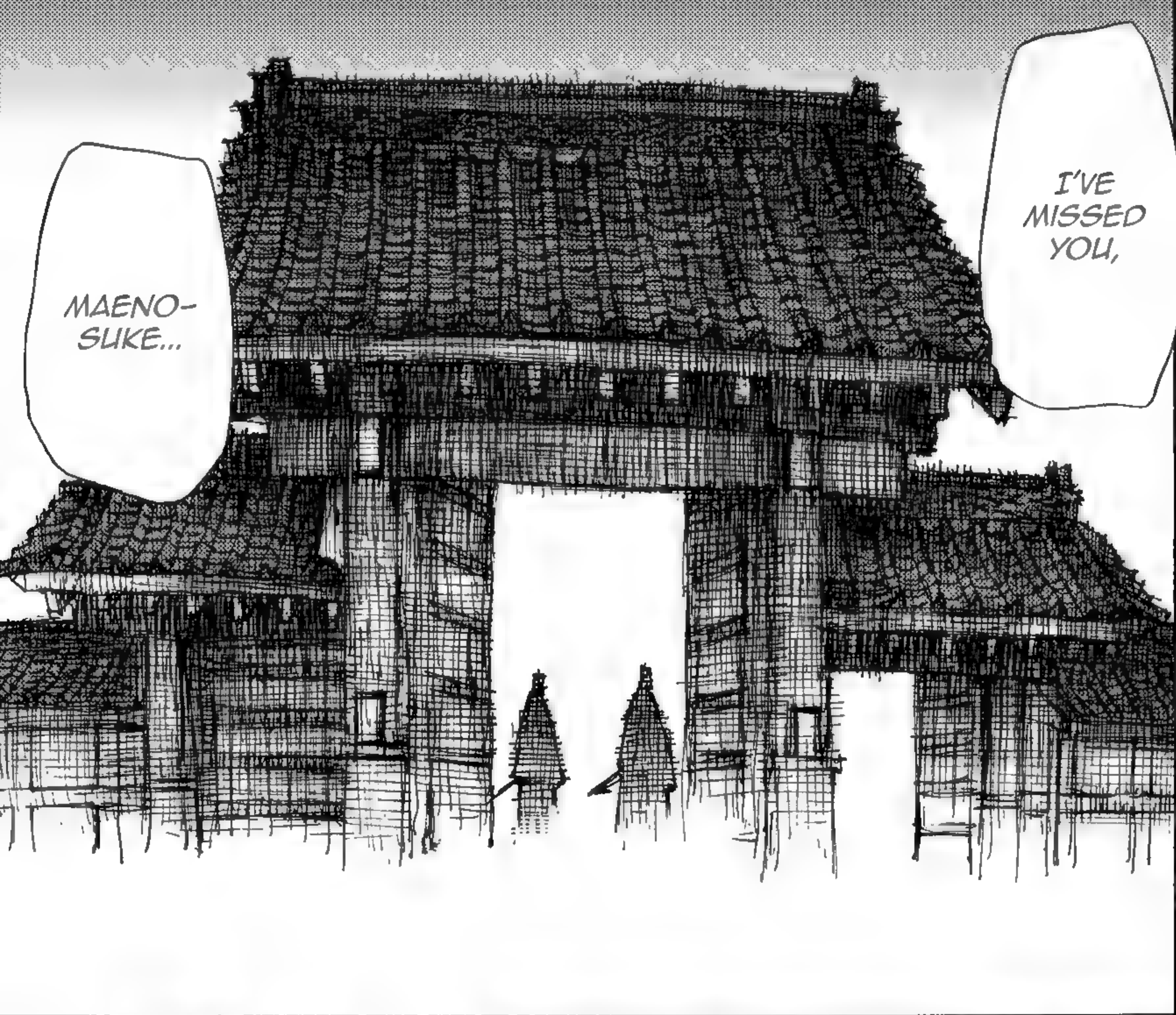


SFX:
clatter



TO STAVE OFF
THE BOLTS OF
LONELINESS,
I WOULD WEAR
THE SCARF YOU
GIFTED ME.

AFTER I
LEFT OUR
HOMETOWN...



MAENO-
SLIKE...

I'VE
MISSED
YOU,



IS IT THAT A
GREENHORN
LIKE ME WOULD
SIMPLY BE IN
THE WAY?

WHY DID
YOU NOT
CALL ME
TO EDO
SOONER?



AS HAVE I,
SIR IMUTA.



THIS
MISSION...
I CAN'T
SHAKE OFF
THIS BAD
FEELING
ABOUT IT.

THAT'S
NOT
TRUE.



I DARE
NOT
CALL YOU
OVER SO
EASILY.

THE
THOUGHT OF
SOMETHING
HAPPENING
TO YOU...



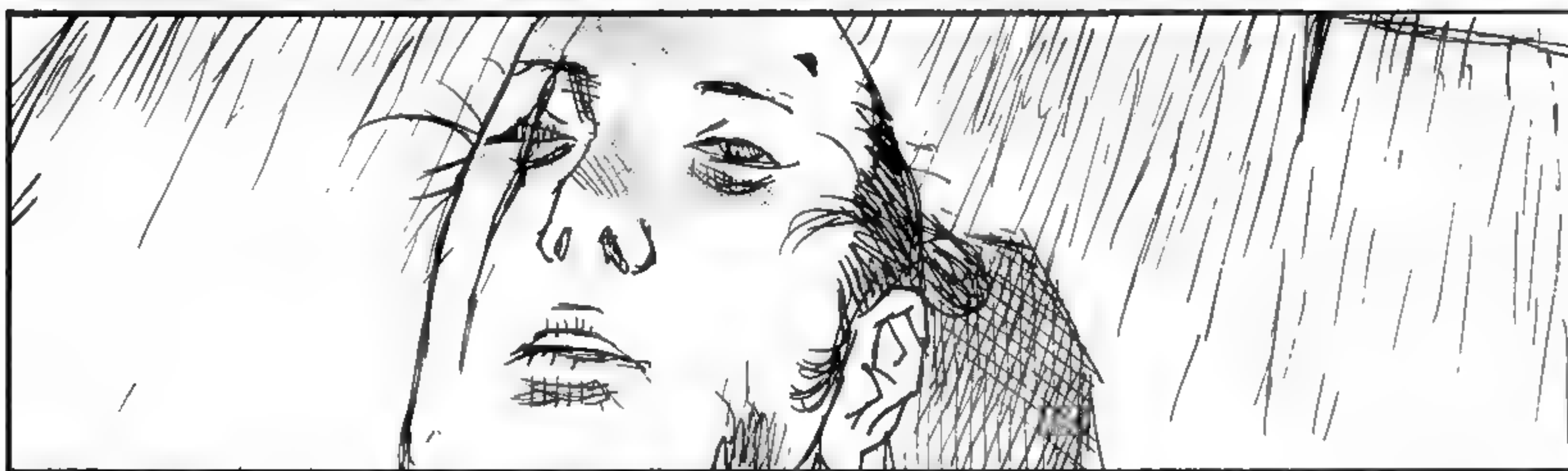
I DO
NOT FEAR
DEATH...

THOUGH A
FLEDGLING,
I TOO AM
A SATSUMA
WARRIOR.

NOT BEING
AT YOUR SIDE
PAINS ME MORE...
WHY CONTINUE
THIS?

THERE IS
NOTHING MORE
I COULD WISH
FOR...

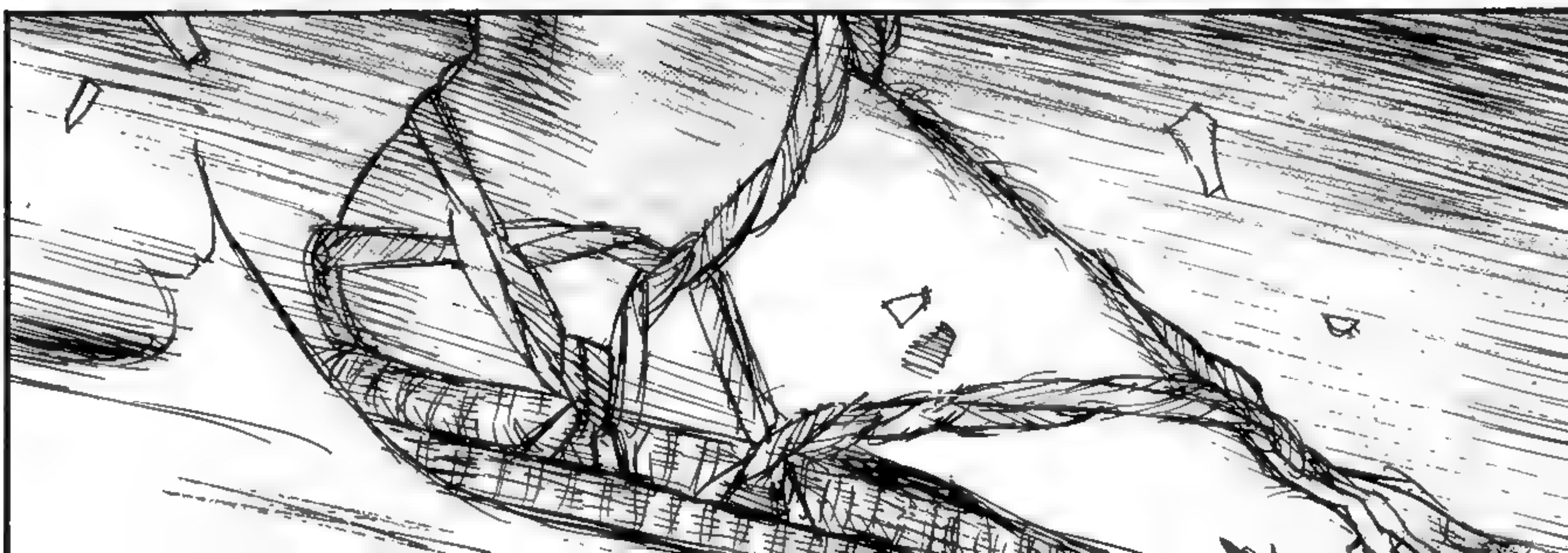
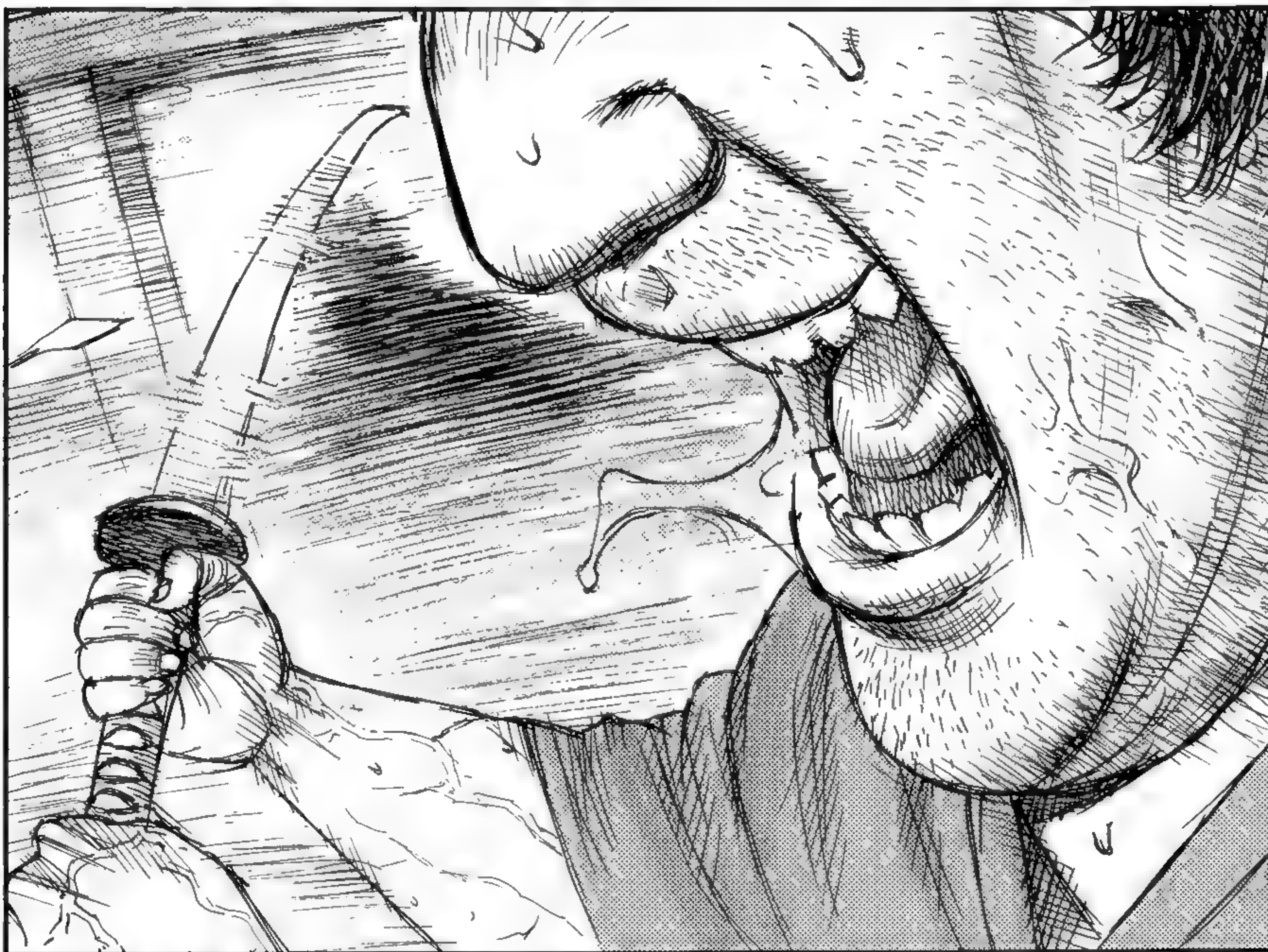
IF SIR IMUTA
IS THE ONE TO
COLLECT MY
REMAINS...

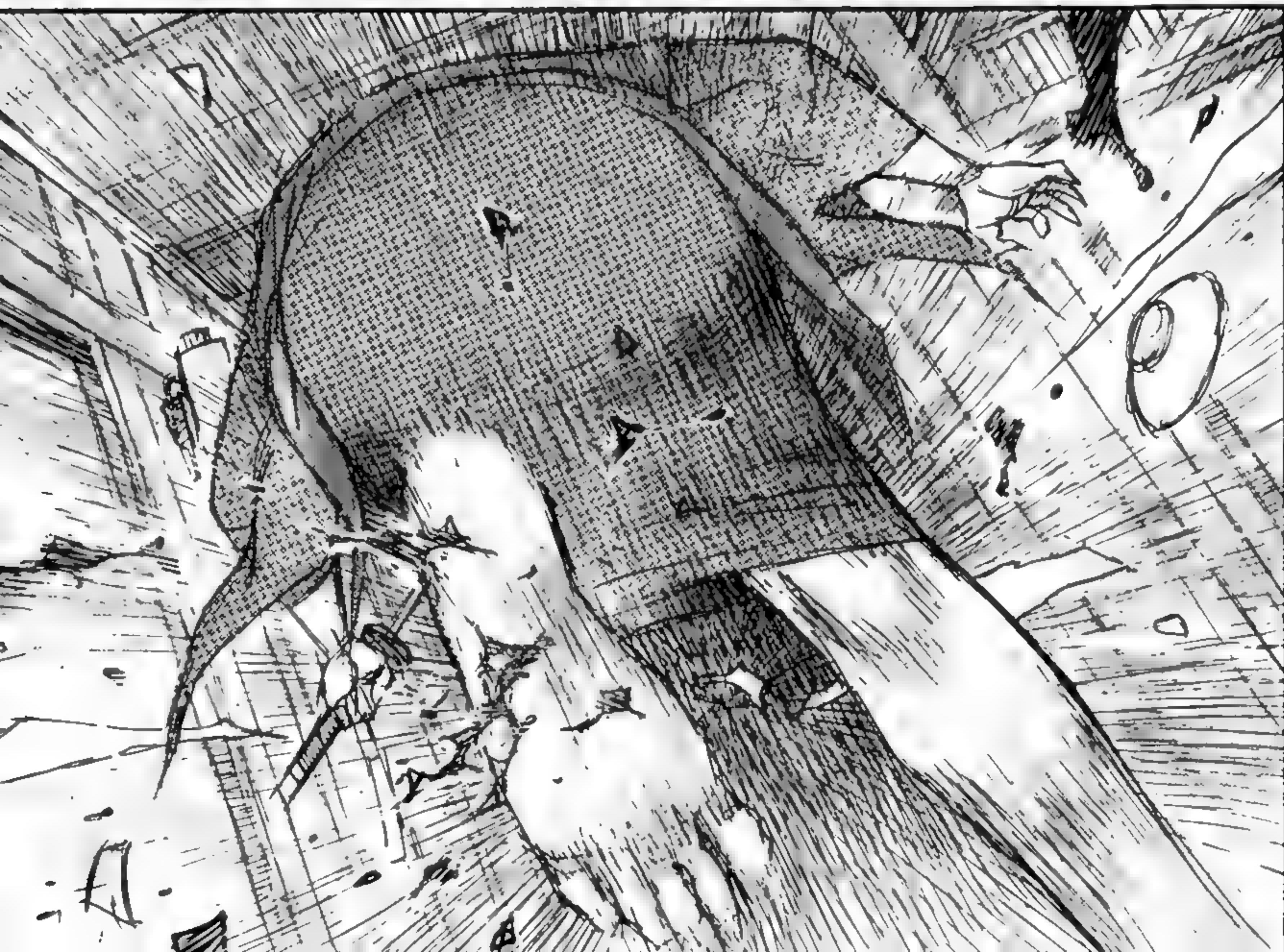


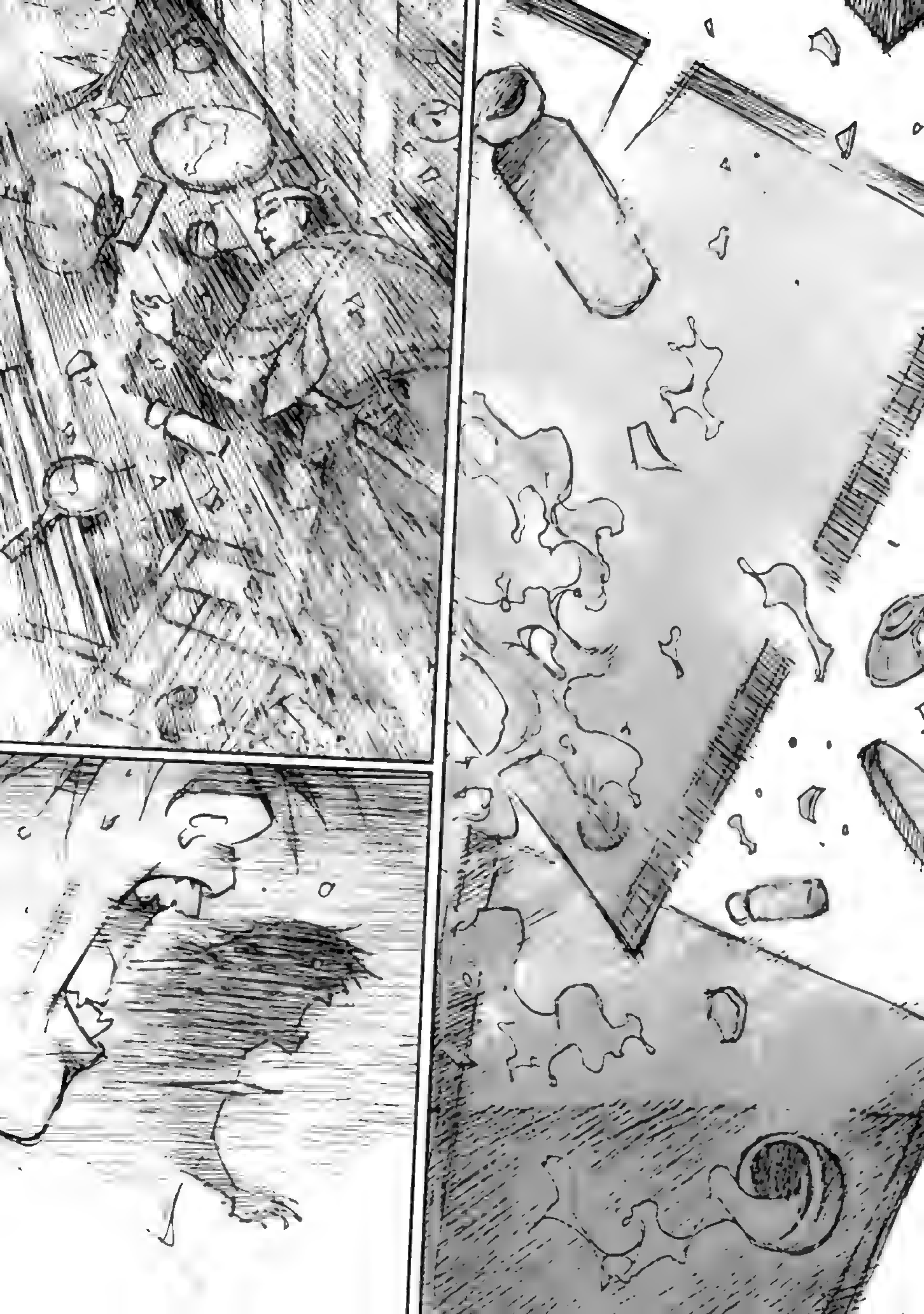
SFX:
chirp,
chirp,
chirp

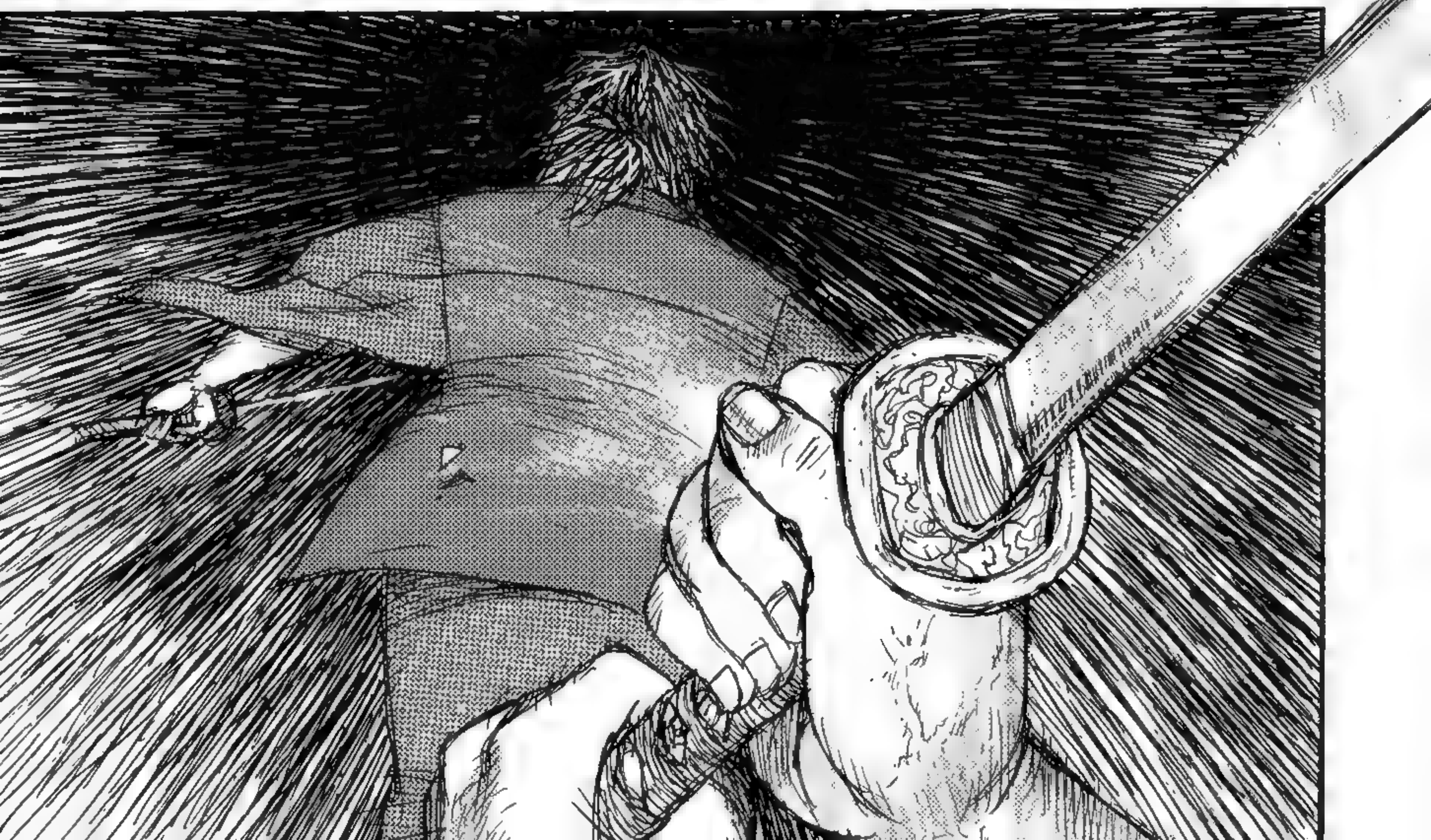
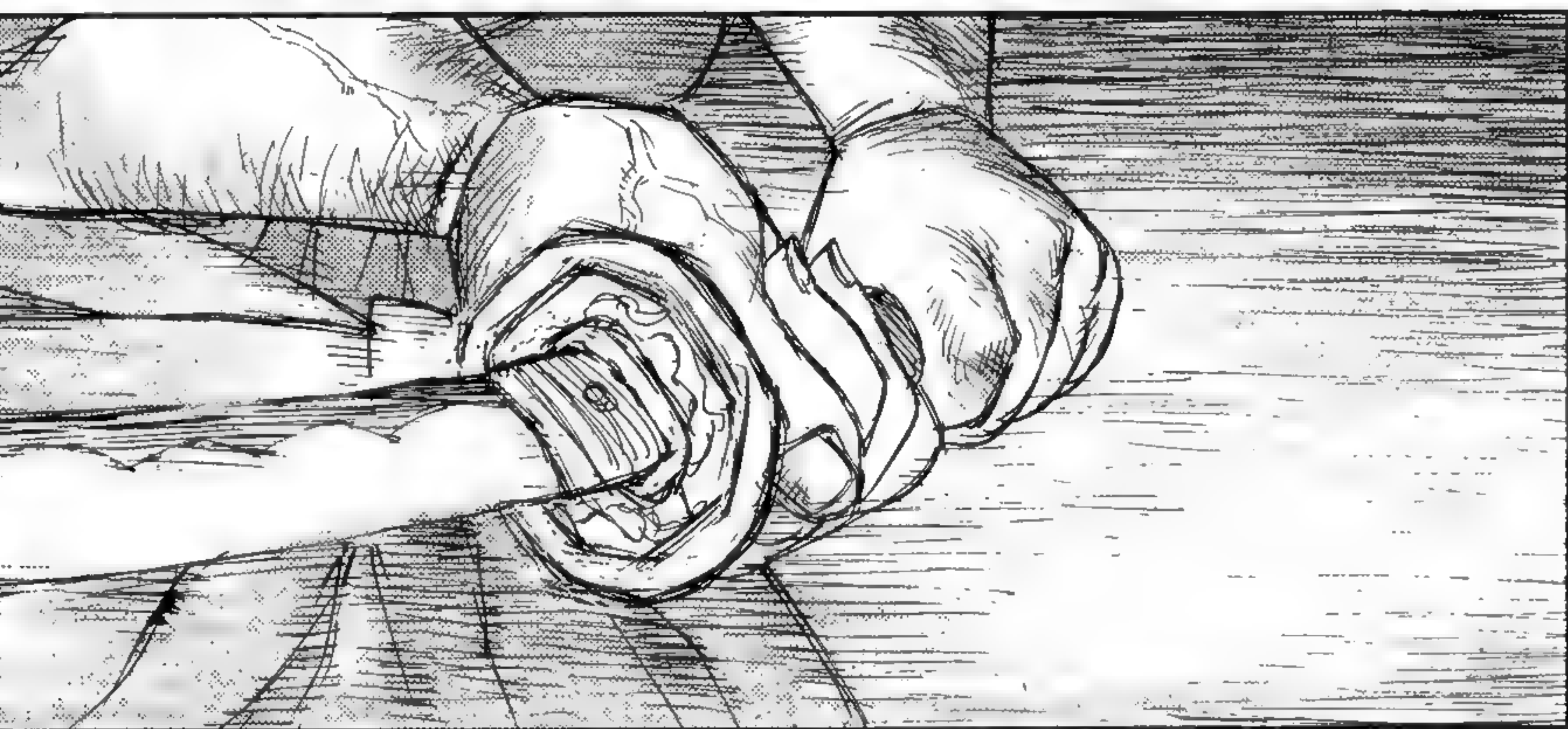


SFX:
flutter





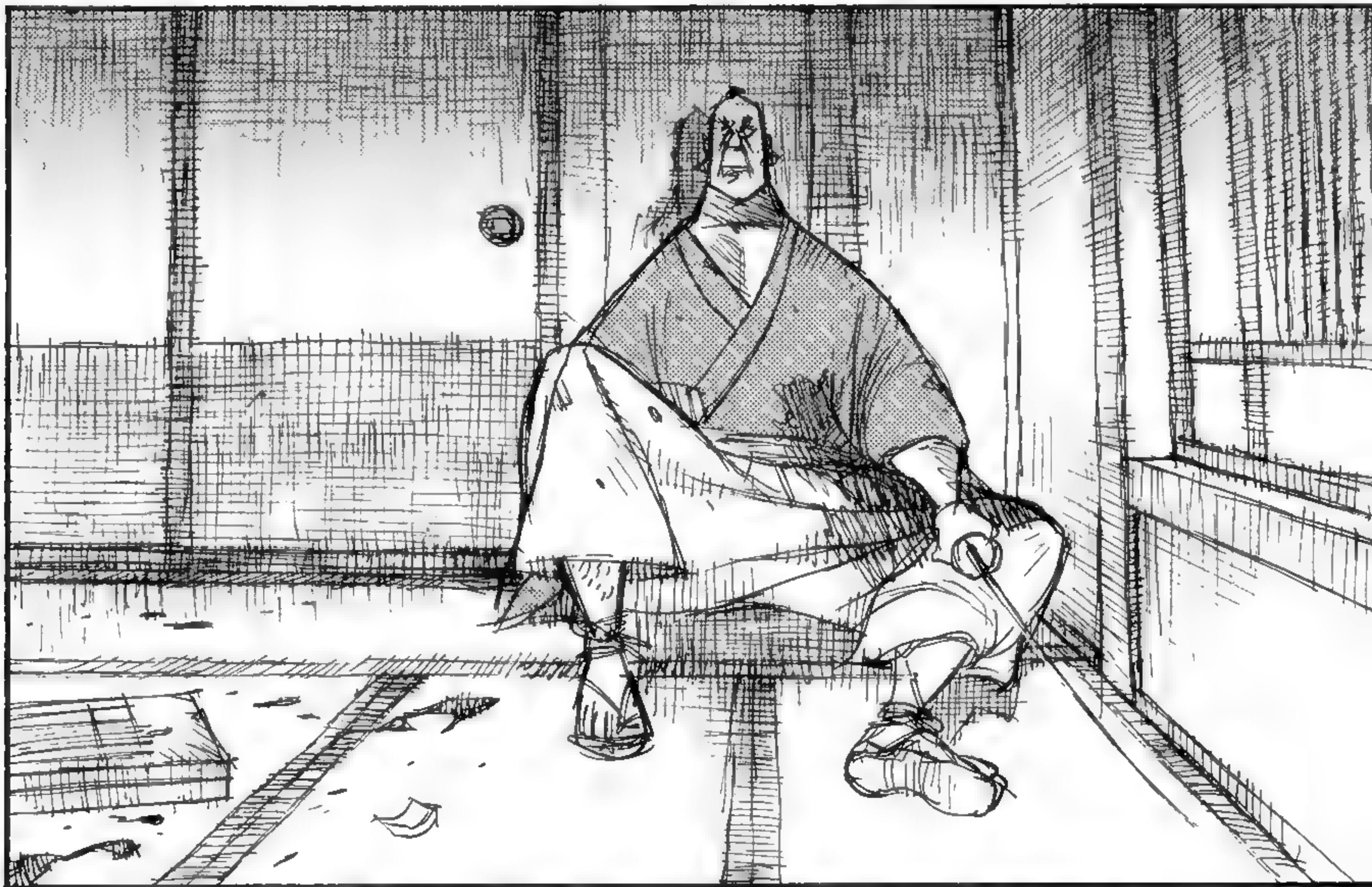








**MAENO-
SUKE....!**



I CAN
SCARCELY
TELL DREAM
FROM RE-
ALITY...

NO
GOOD,

I VERY
NEARLY
PASSED
OUT...

SFX:
pant x3



WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?

USHI-
GOROU...



ANSWER
ME!

OI!



**USHI-
GOROU!**

SFX:
slam x5



SFX:
slam x3



SFX:
slam x2

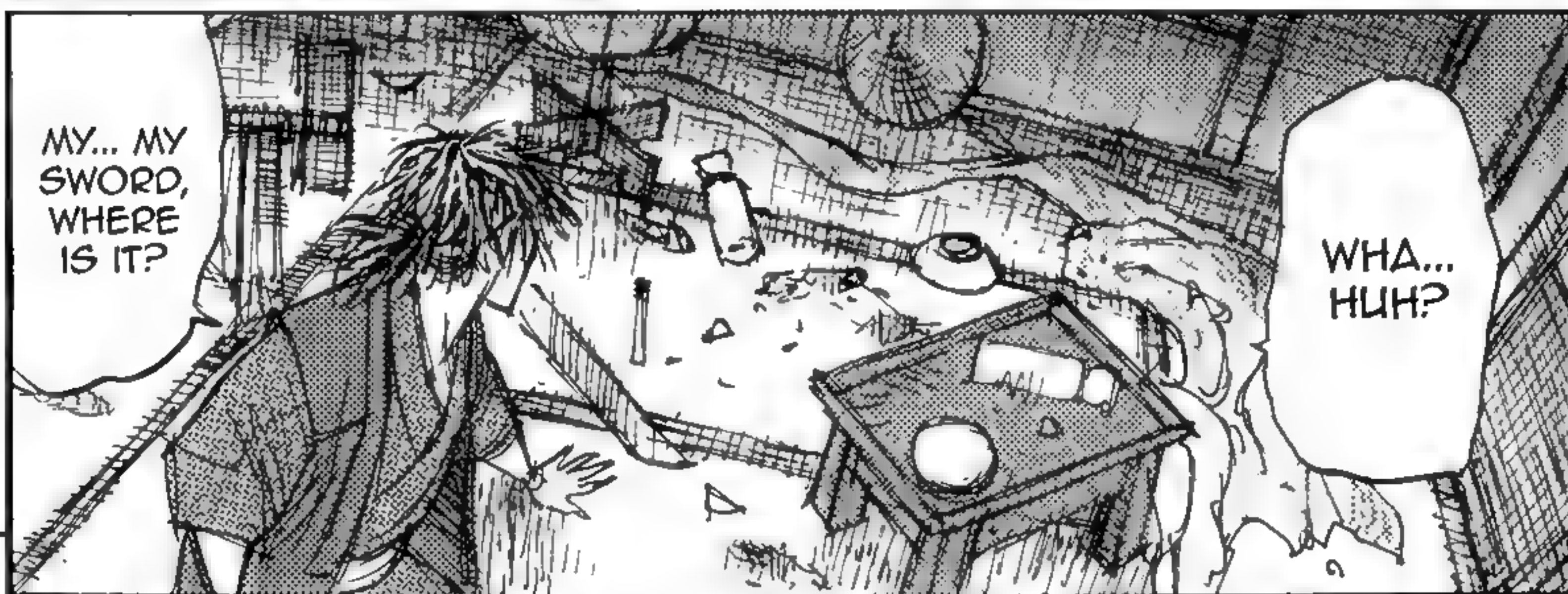


HM?



I CAN
HARDLY
MOVE...

I'M THE
ONE THAT'S
BARELY
HOLDING
OUT.



MY... MY
SWORD,
WHERE
IS IT?

WHA...
HUH?



MY
SWORD'S
GONE!

FUUUCK!



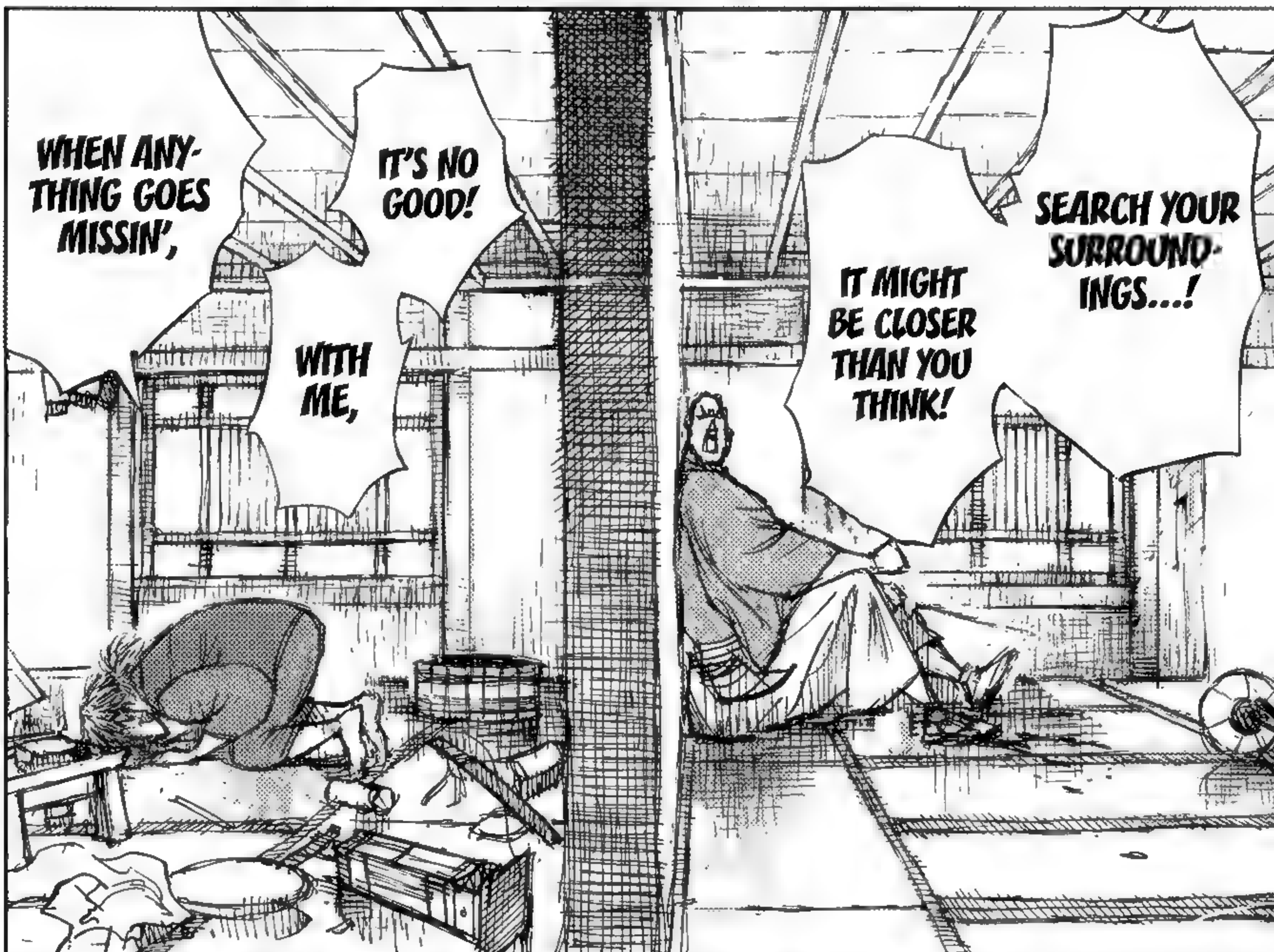
I DIDN'T
NOTICE.

MUSTA
DROPPED
WHILE
I WAS
RUNNING
AROUND.



**YOU'RE
SLACKING,
PEASANT!**

**WHAT ARE
YOU DOING,
YOU CLUMSY
FOOL?!**



**WHEN ANY-
THING GOES
MISSIN',**

**IT'S NO
GOOD!**

**WITH
ME,**

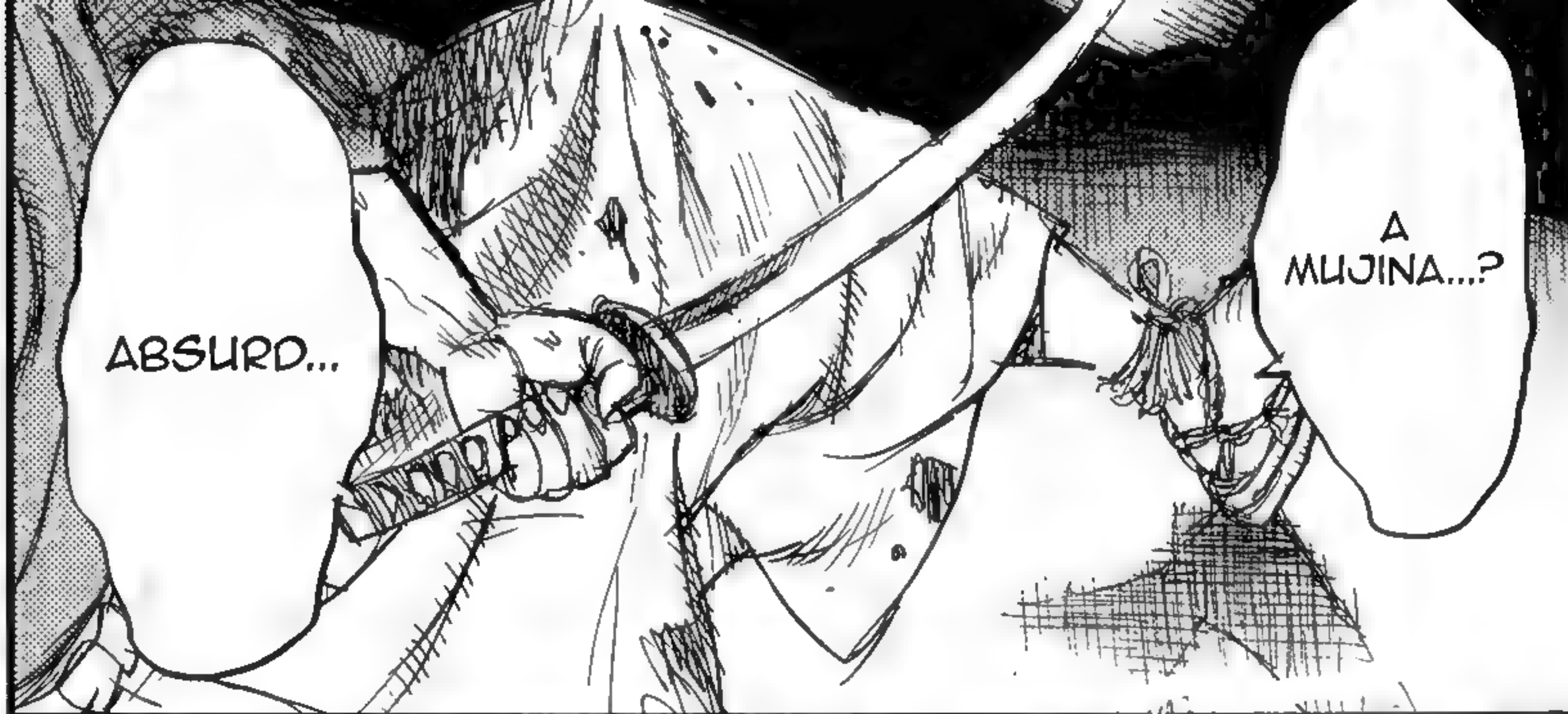
**SEARCH YOUR
SURROUND-
INGS...!**

**IT MIGHT
BE CLOSER
THAN YOU
THINK!**



**IT'S LIKE
I'M BEIN'
PLAYED BY
TANUKIS...**

**IT ONLY
POPS UP AFTER
I'VE GONE AND
GOT A NEW
ONE...**



ABSURD...

A
MUJINA...?



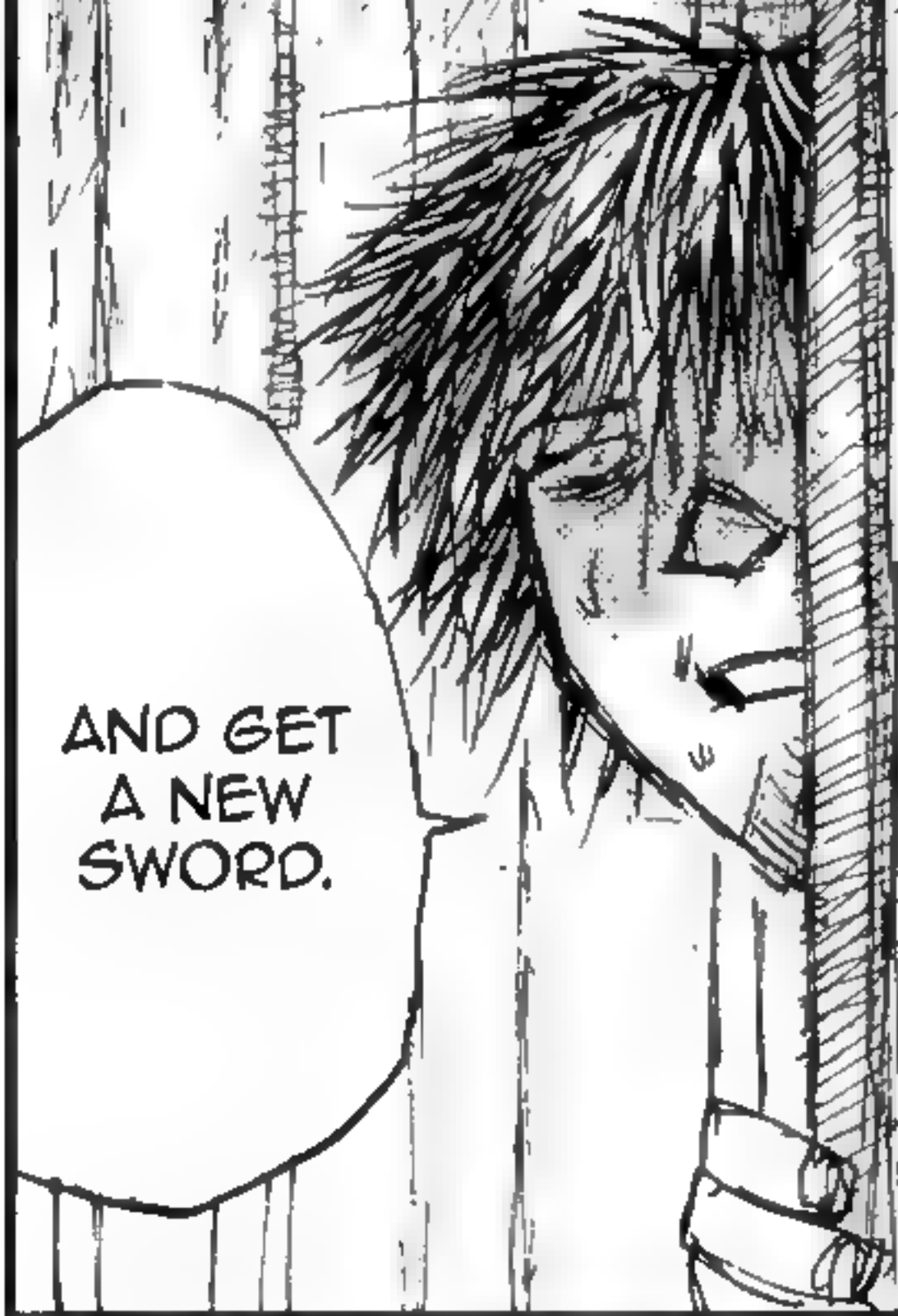
URGH...

SFX:
huff x2



HUH, YOUR
SWORD'S
ALL BENT
UP TOO.





AND GET
A NEW
SWORD.



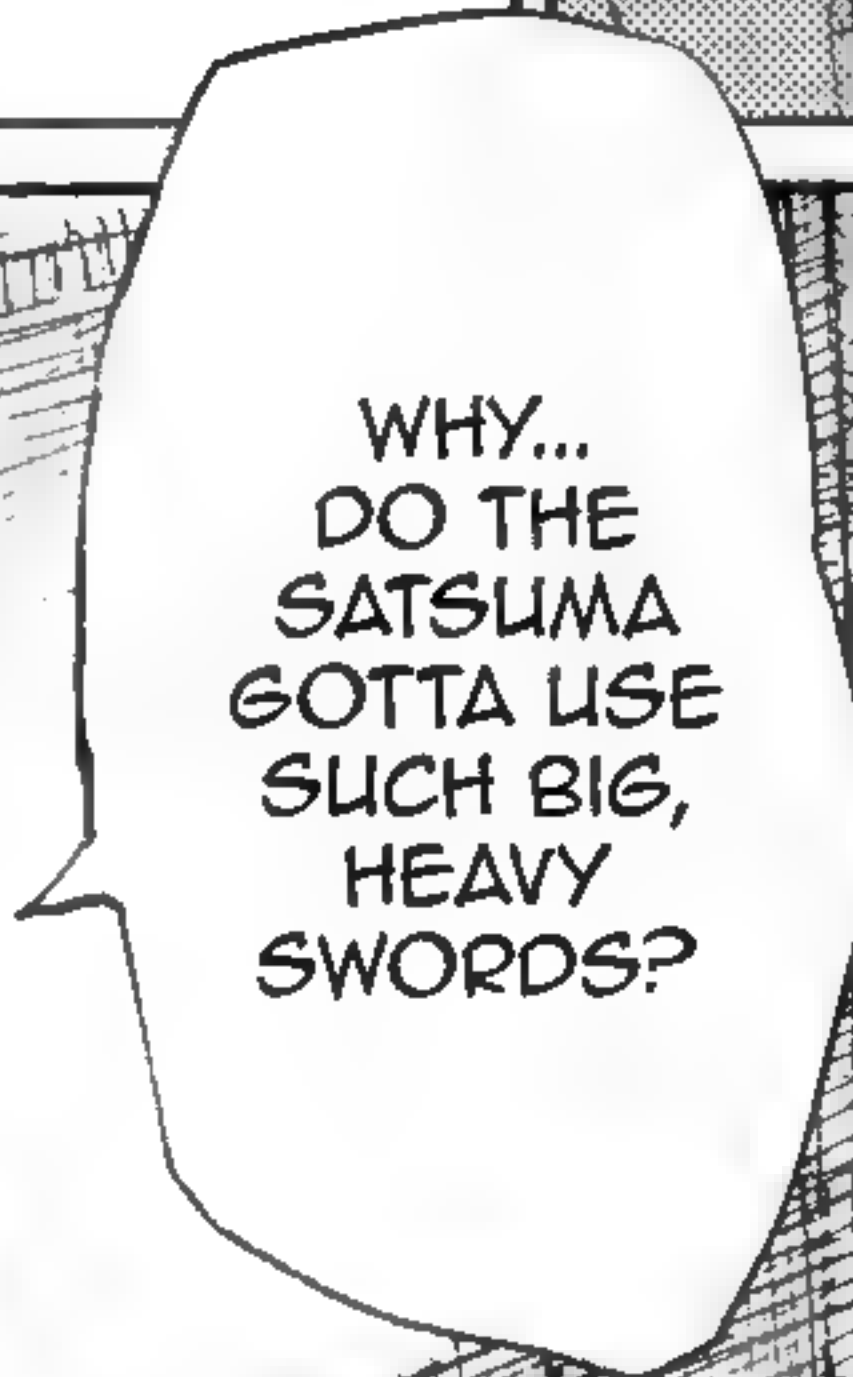
I'M
GONNA
HEAD
DOWN...



WHAT
IS IT?



THE ONE
I SAW ON
THE WAY IN
WAS A LITTLE
DULL, BUT
ITS SHAPE
WAS OKAY.



WHY...
DO THE
SATSUMA
GOTTA USE
SUCH BIG,
HEAVY
SWORDS?



THE ONES
LAYING
AROUND UP
HERE ARE
NO GOOD
FOR ME.



YOU
REST UP
FOR NOW.



LOOKS
LIKE YOU
CAN BARELY
STAND UP.



UNLIKE ME,
YOU'LL WANT
A BIG HEAVY
ONE RIGHT?

I'LL GRAB
ONE FOR
YOU TOO.



START
PLAYING
TAG AGAIN
LIKE THAT?

WELL?

OR YOU
WANNA...



WELL?!



NOT
LIKE...

YOU CAN
RUN ANY
BETTER...



JUST
MAKIN'
SURE,
BUT...

HEY,



WHO CUT
DOWN MY
LITTLE
SISTER,
CHIYO,
RIGHT?

IMUTA...
IT WAS
YOU...



WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING
AT THIS
POINT?

...



THOSE WHO
CARVE FATE
MUST ACCEPT
THEIR SINS.

IT ISN'T
ABOUT
WHO THEY
WERE
KILLED
BY,

THE
ONE WHO
SINNED
IS RIGHT
HERE.

AT THE
VERY
LEAST...

BUT
FOR WHAT
REASON.



BUT HAD I
NOT CALLED
MAENOSUKE
HERE, HE
WOULD NOT
HAVE DIED.

IT MAY
HAVE BEEN
A GUERRILLA
PEASANT THAT
KILLED HIM...

IS ME.

MY
WEAKNESS
DROVE HIM
TO HIS
DEATH.

THE ONE
DESERVING
PUNISH-
MENT...





CRUSHING
INNOCENTS IN
THE PATH OF
REVENGE.

WHILE
PASSING OFF
RESPONSIBILITY,
IT ONLY GREW
LARGER,



NO MATTER
WHAT IS DONE,
NO ONE WILL
BE CONTENT
AND NOTHING
WILL BE
SOLVED.

THINGS
HAVE
GOTTEN
OUT OF
HAND.

SFX:
flare,
crackle



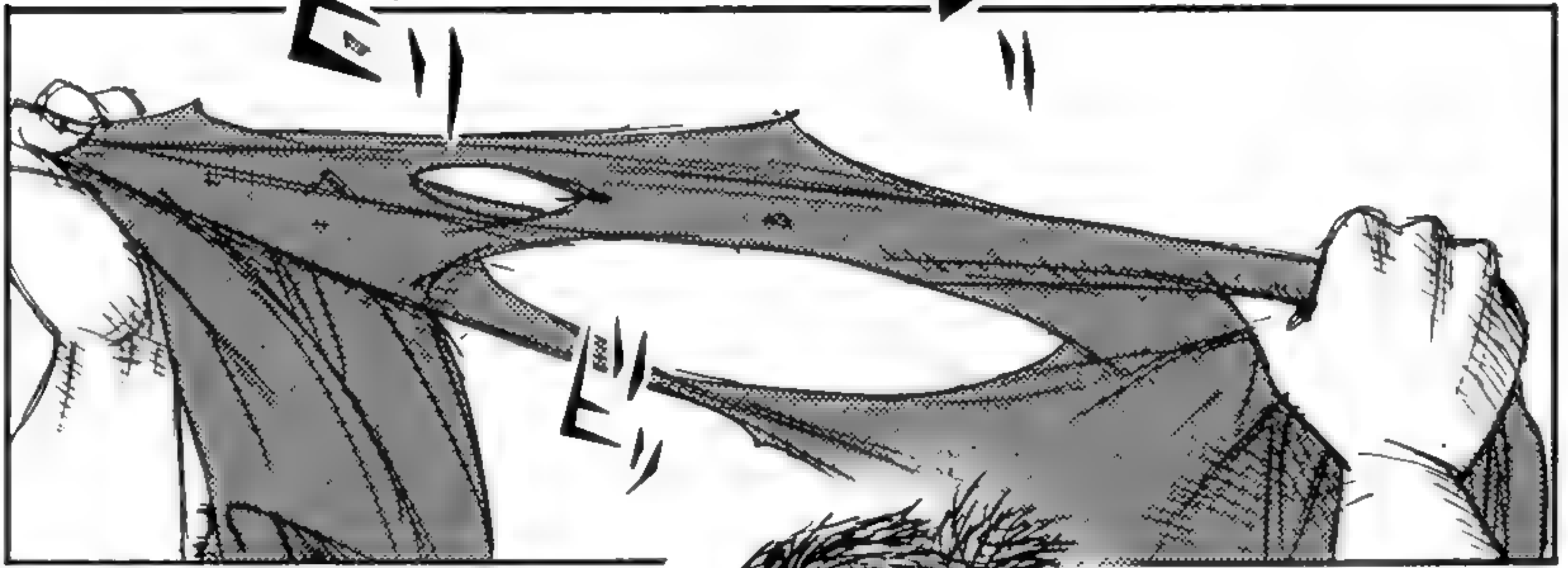
SFX:
crackle x2



TO SETTLE
THEIR OWN
DEBTS...

BUT
EVEN SO...
ONE SHOULD
ABIDE THE
DIGNITY...





SFX:
rip x3



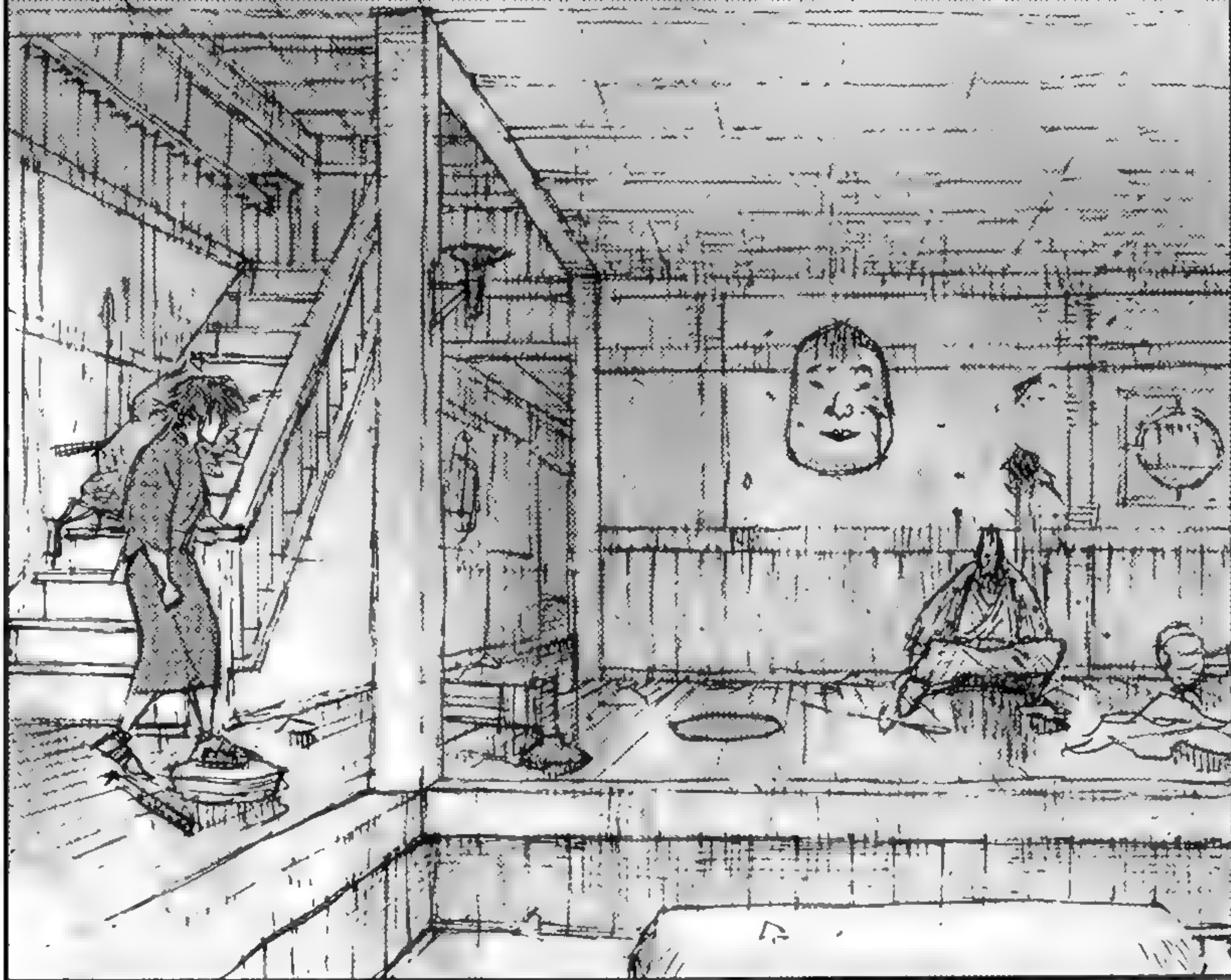
SFX:
totter

OWW!

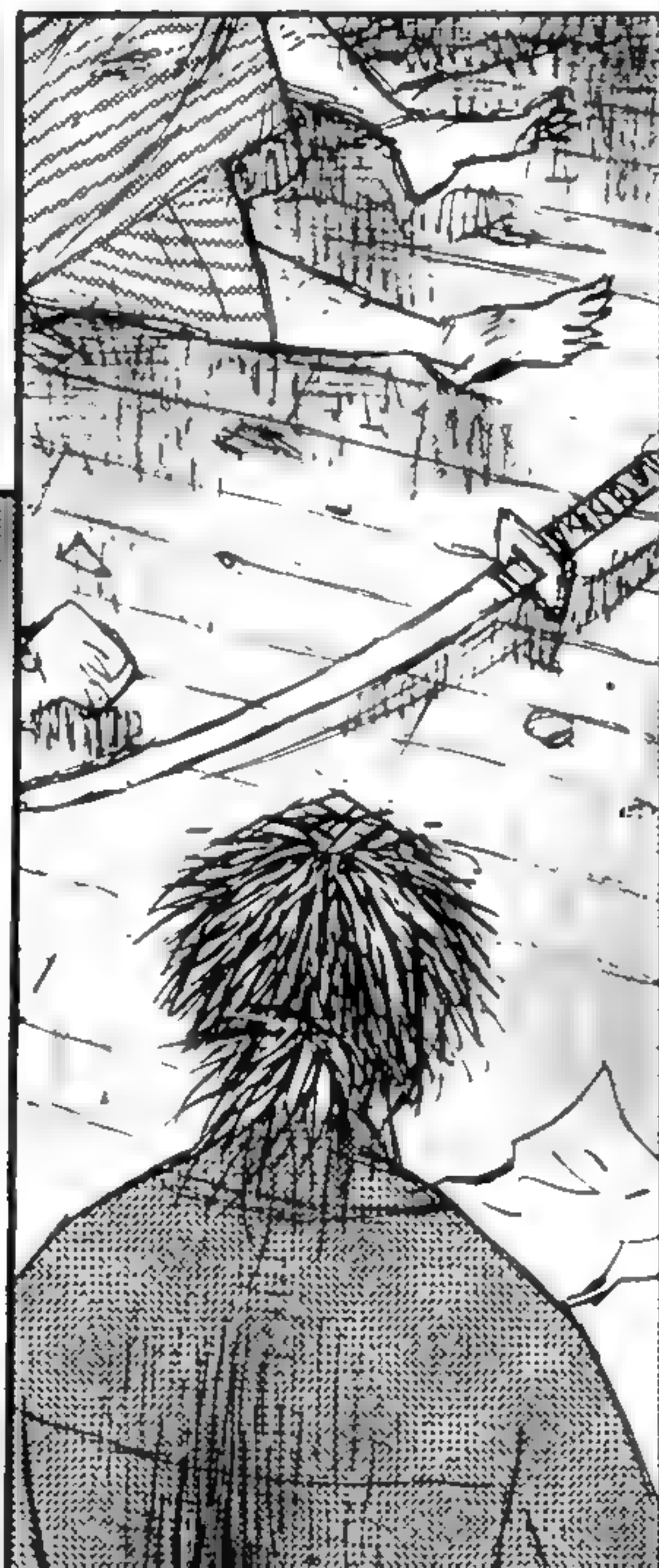
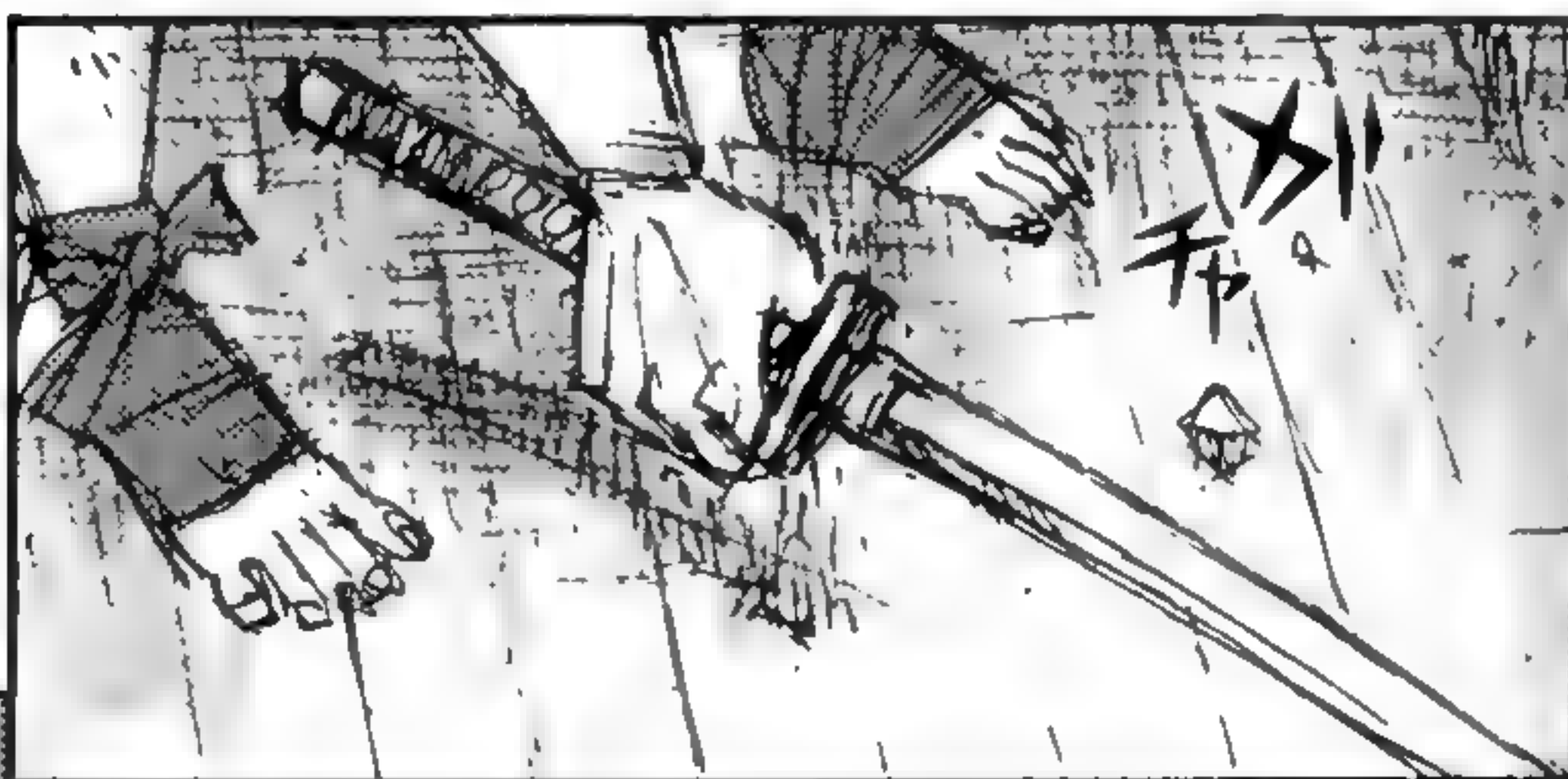
SHIT!



SFX:
huff x2



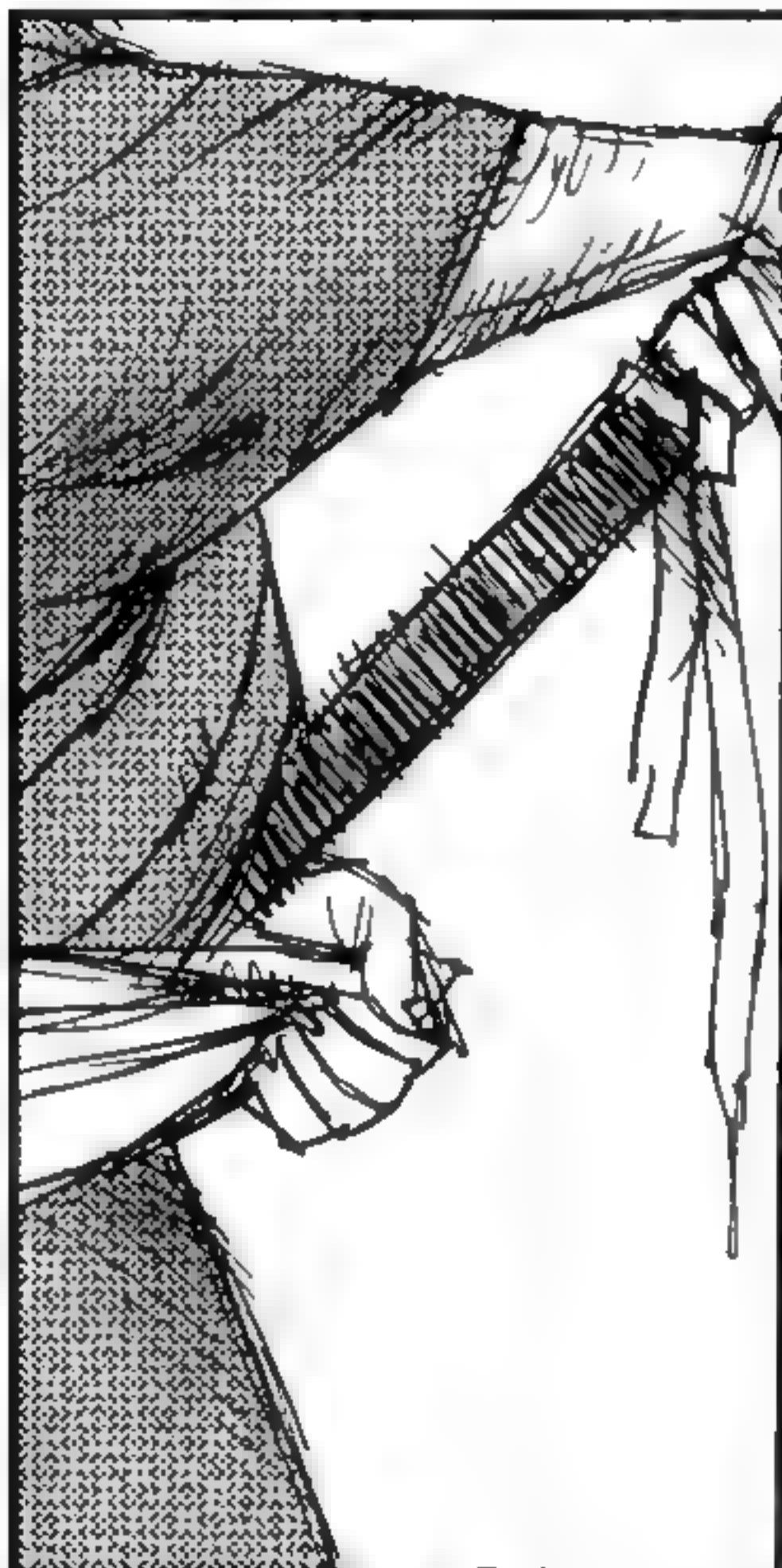
SFX:
clack





I HATE TO
ADMIT IT,
BUT...

TCH!



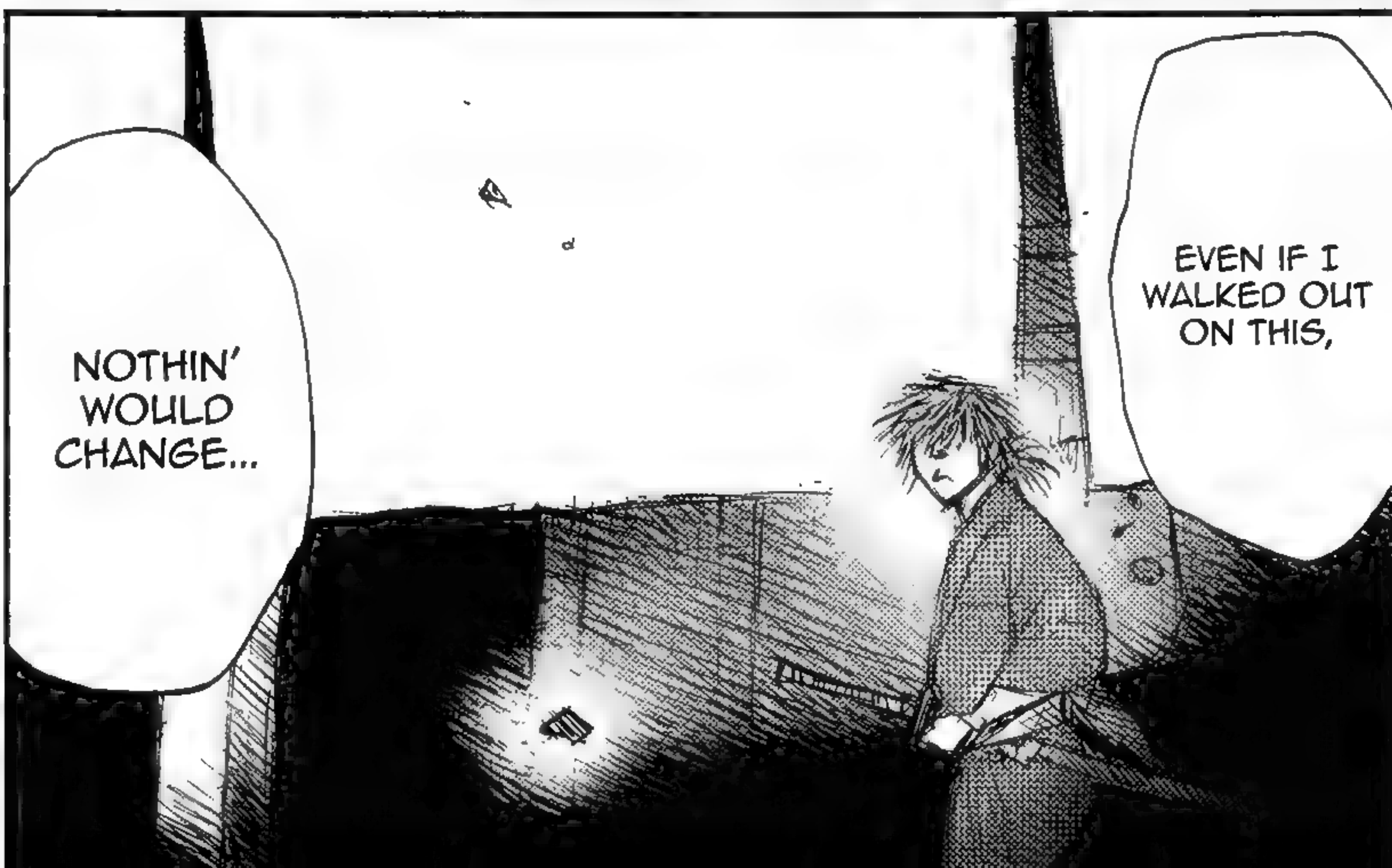
THIS HAS
GOTTEN
OUT OF
HAND...

IT'S AS
IMUTA
SAYS.



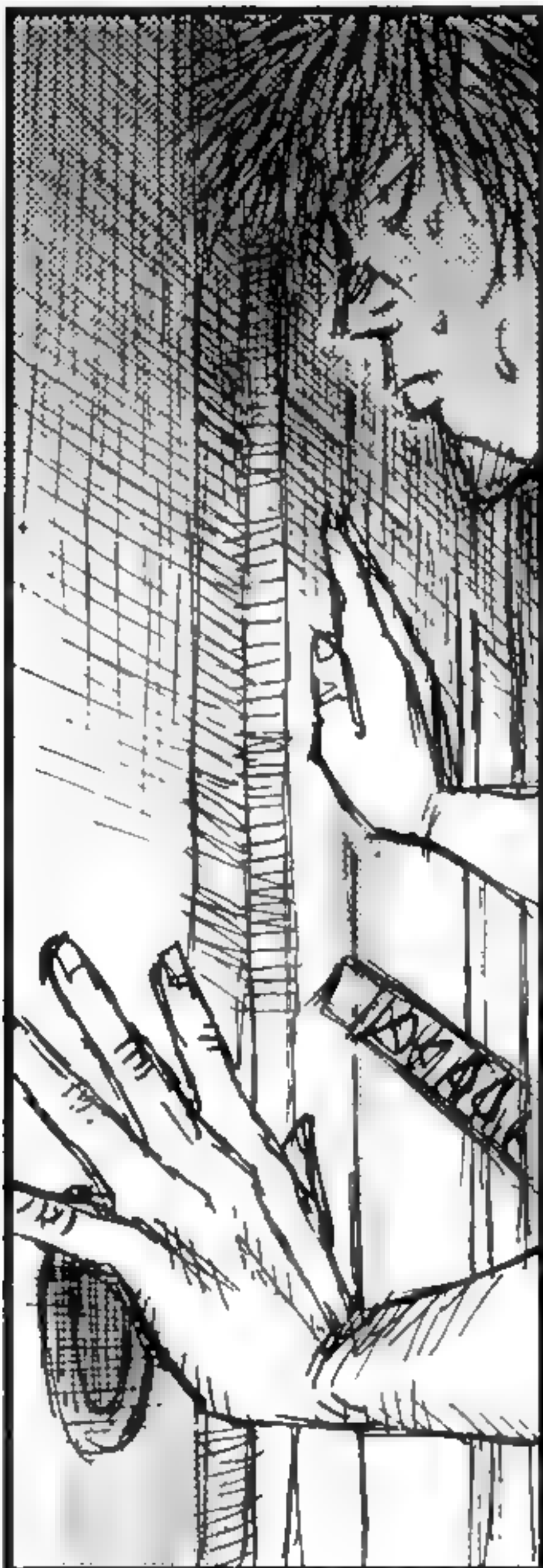


SFX:
whoosh

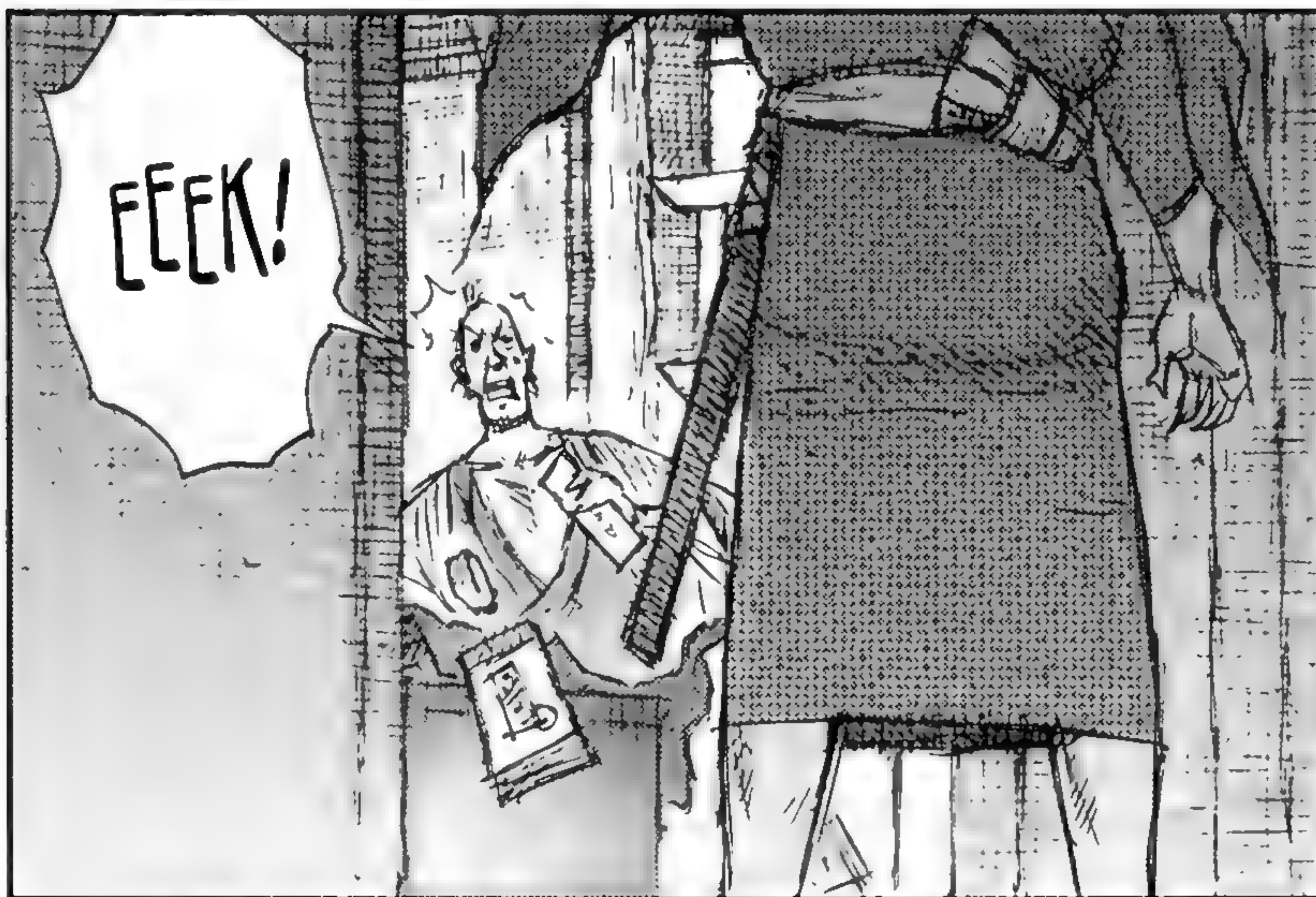


NOTHIN'
WOULD
CHANGE...

EVEN IF I
WALKED OUT
ON THIS,



SFX:
slide





G-
GUERRILLA
PEASANT...

Y-
YOU'RE
THAT...



WERE
YOU
HIDIN'....?

WHAT'RE
YOU
DOIN' HERE?



AAARGH!

YOU
OKAY?

SFX:
scramble



H...
HEY...

S-S-SOMEONE,
HELP ME...!

D-D-DON'T
COME ANY
CLOSER—

SFX:
clatter,
crack



YOU'RE
PART
OF THE
REFORM-
ING SHIT
SQUAD!

GOING
AROUND
CUTTING DOWN
VILLAGERS
ALL DAY...

I-I-I
KNOW WHO
YOU ARE.

SFX:
clatter



**IT'S ALL
BECAUSE
YOU'RE THE
SATSUMA-
CHASING SHIT
SQUAD!**

**THE REASON
IMUTA WENT
AND WRECKED
MY SHOP...**



**DON'T
LIE!**

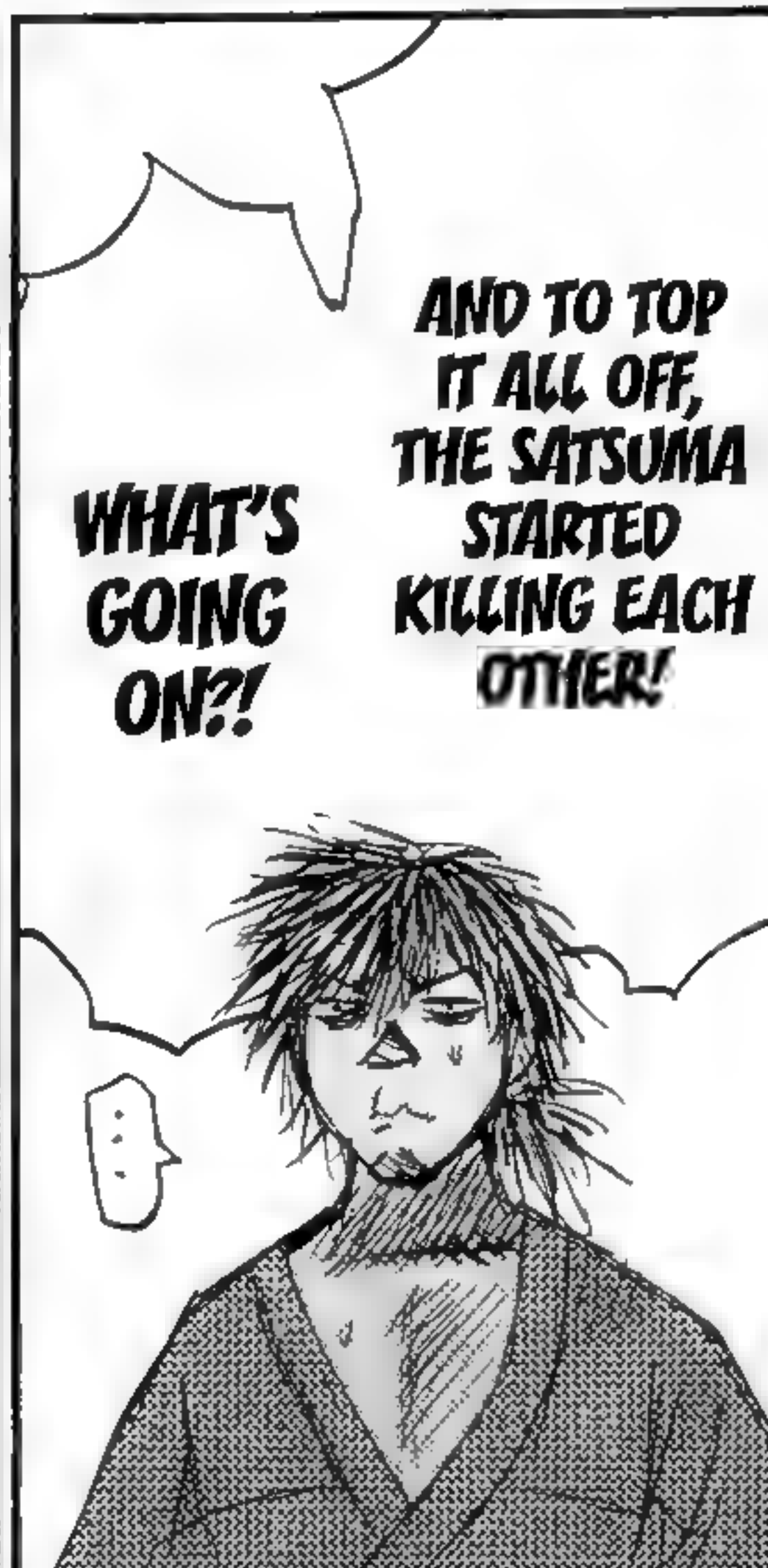
**UH...
I'M
NO—**



**HEY...
CALM
DOWN.**

**DO YOUR
KILLING
OUTSIDE MY
STOOORE!**

**I DON'T CARE
IF YOU'RE
THE SATSUMA
OOOR THE SHIT
SQUAD!**



**WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!**

**AND TO TOP
IT ALL OFF,
THE SATSUMA
STARTED
KILLING EACH
OTHER!**



**LISTEN
TO ME!**

HEY!

**YES! I'M
LISTENING!**



RIGHT?!

**YOU'RE
AFTER
THIS,**



**I KNOW,
I KNOW!**

SFX: scatter



**IT'S A
SMALL
PRICE TO
PAY.**

**IF THIS
THING WILL
SPARE ME...**



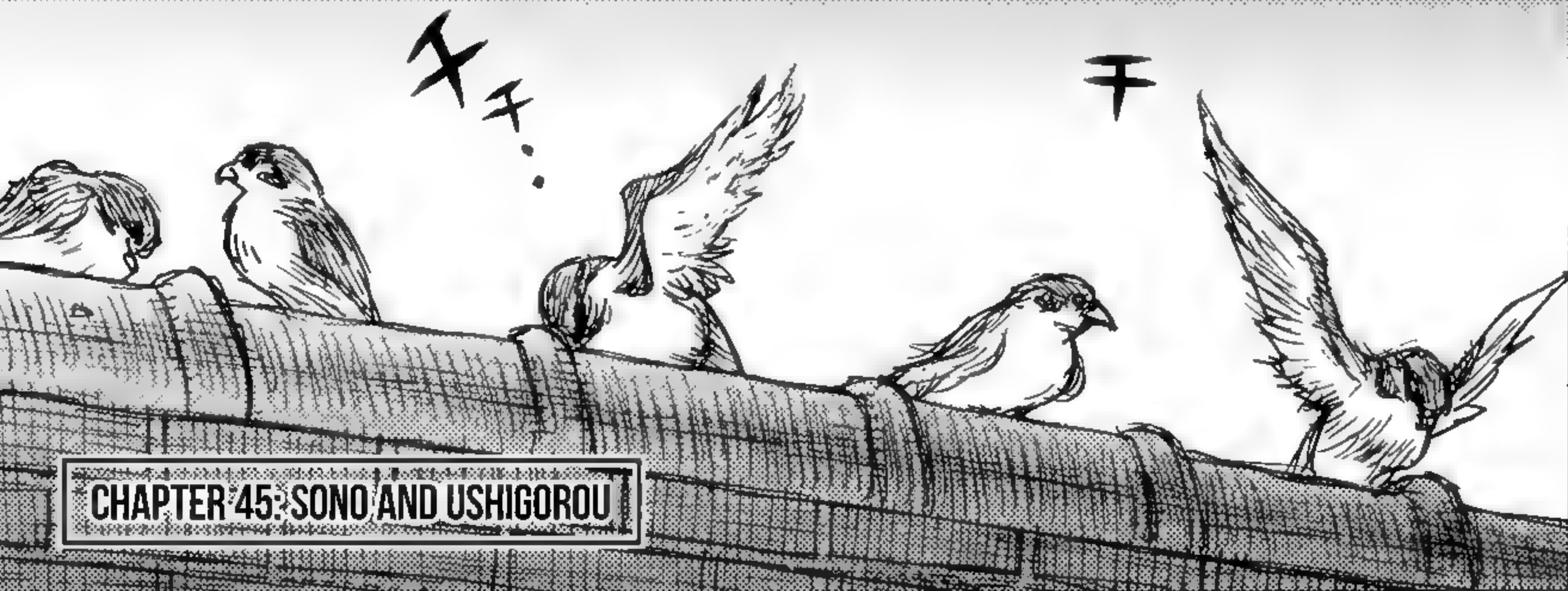
**OF COURSE,
IT'S SONO'S
DEED.**

**THE
HECK IS
THIS...?**

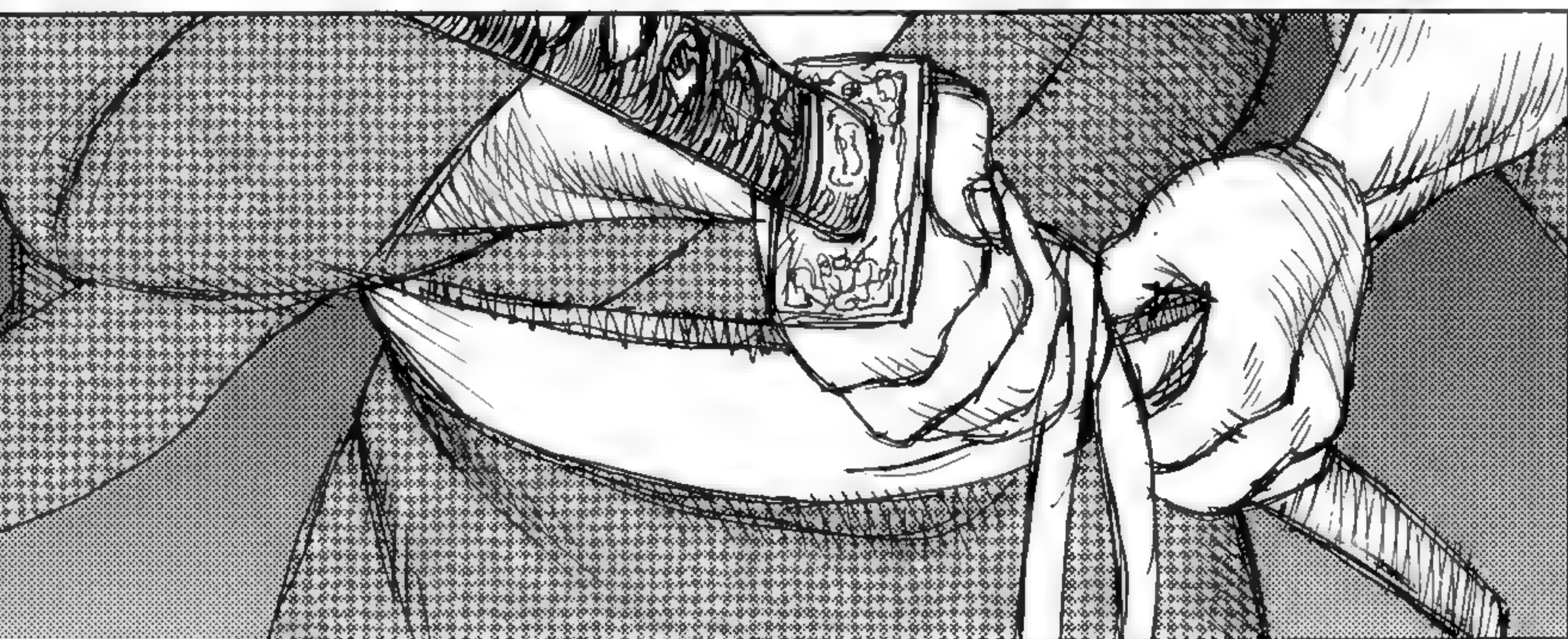
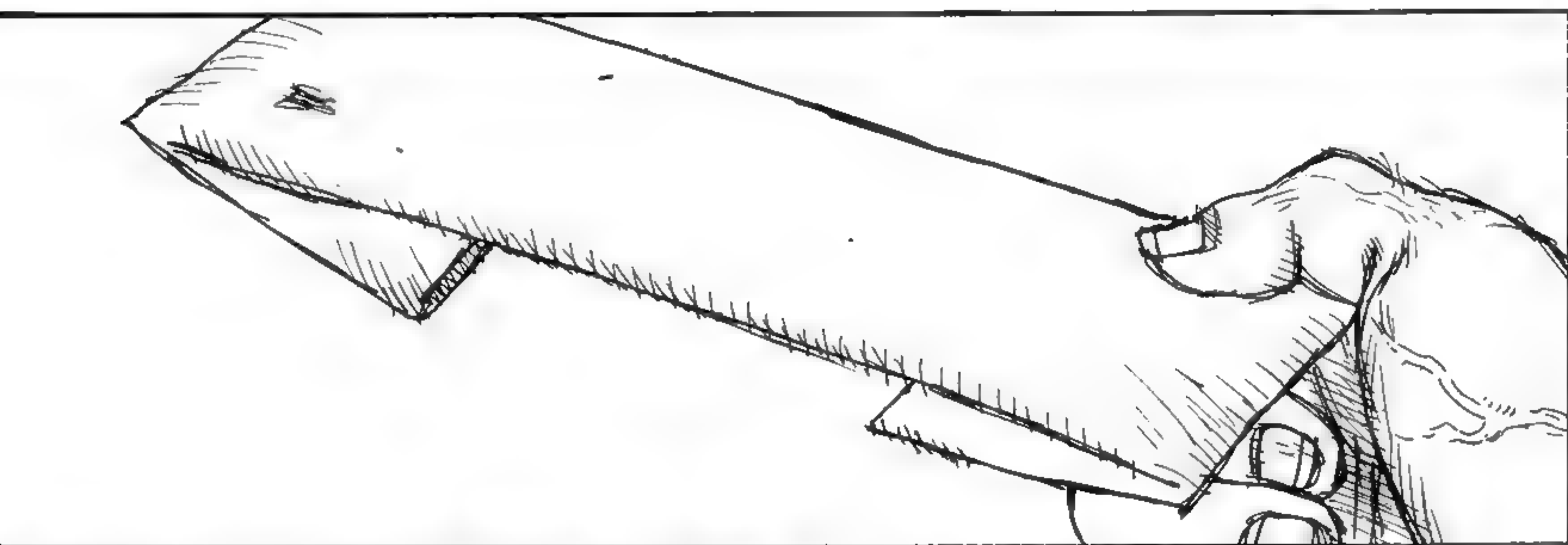


**I CAN'T HARBOR
SUCH A JINX
ANY LONGER.
TAKE HER AND
BEGONE!**

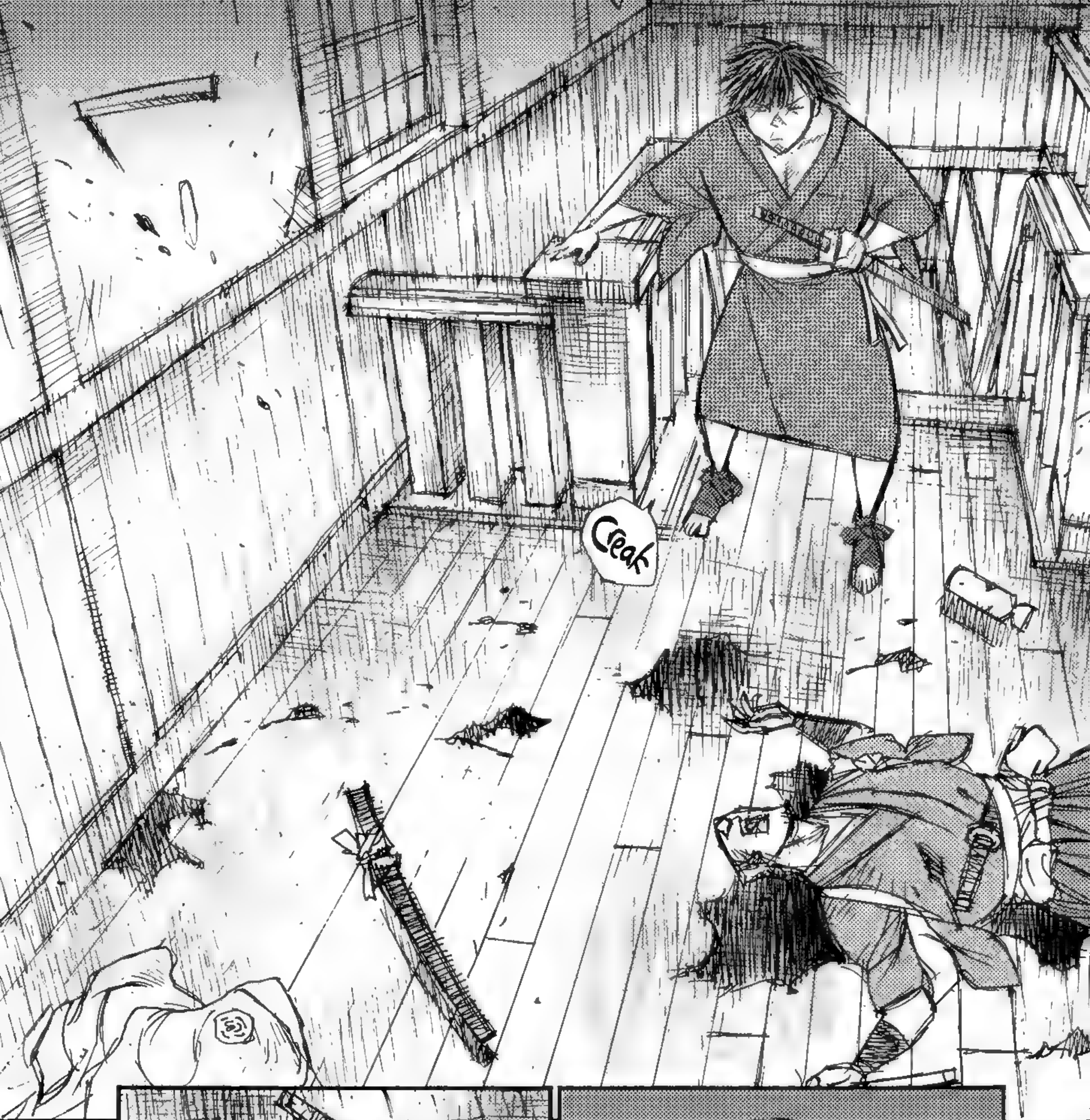
**IT'S ALL
HER FAULT!
THAT WOMAN
ATTRACTS
NOTHING BUT
TROUBLE!**

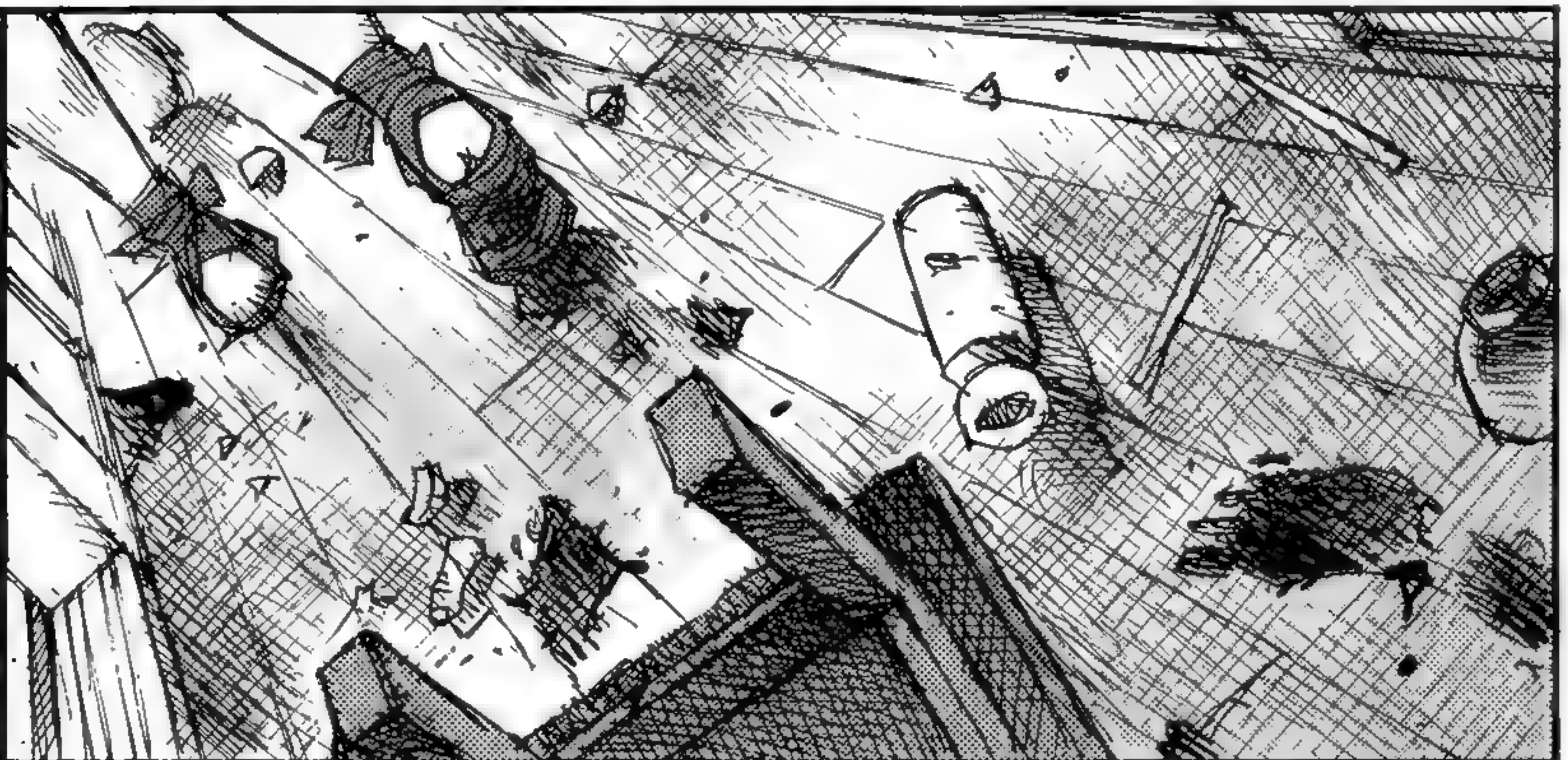


SFX:
chirp,
chirp

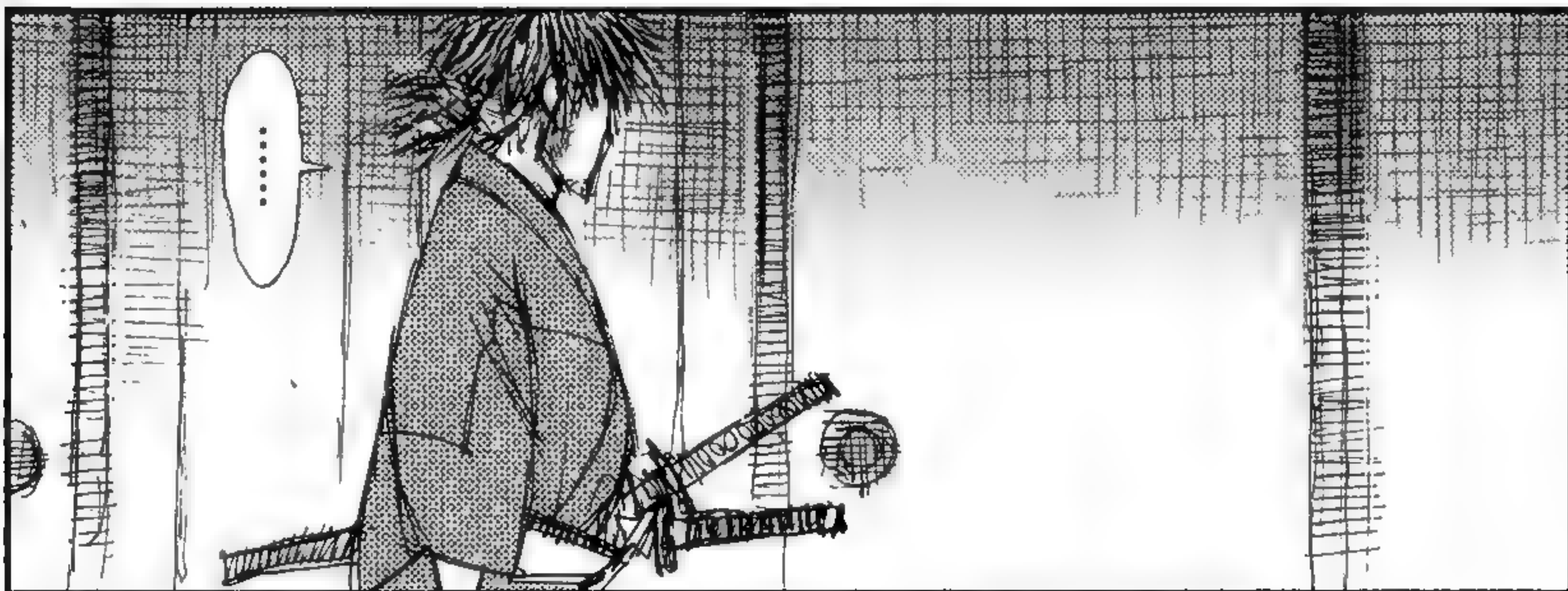
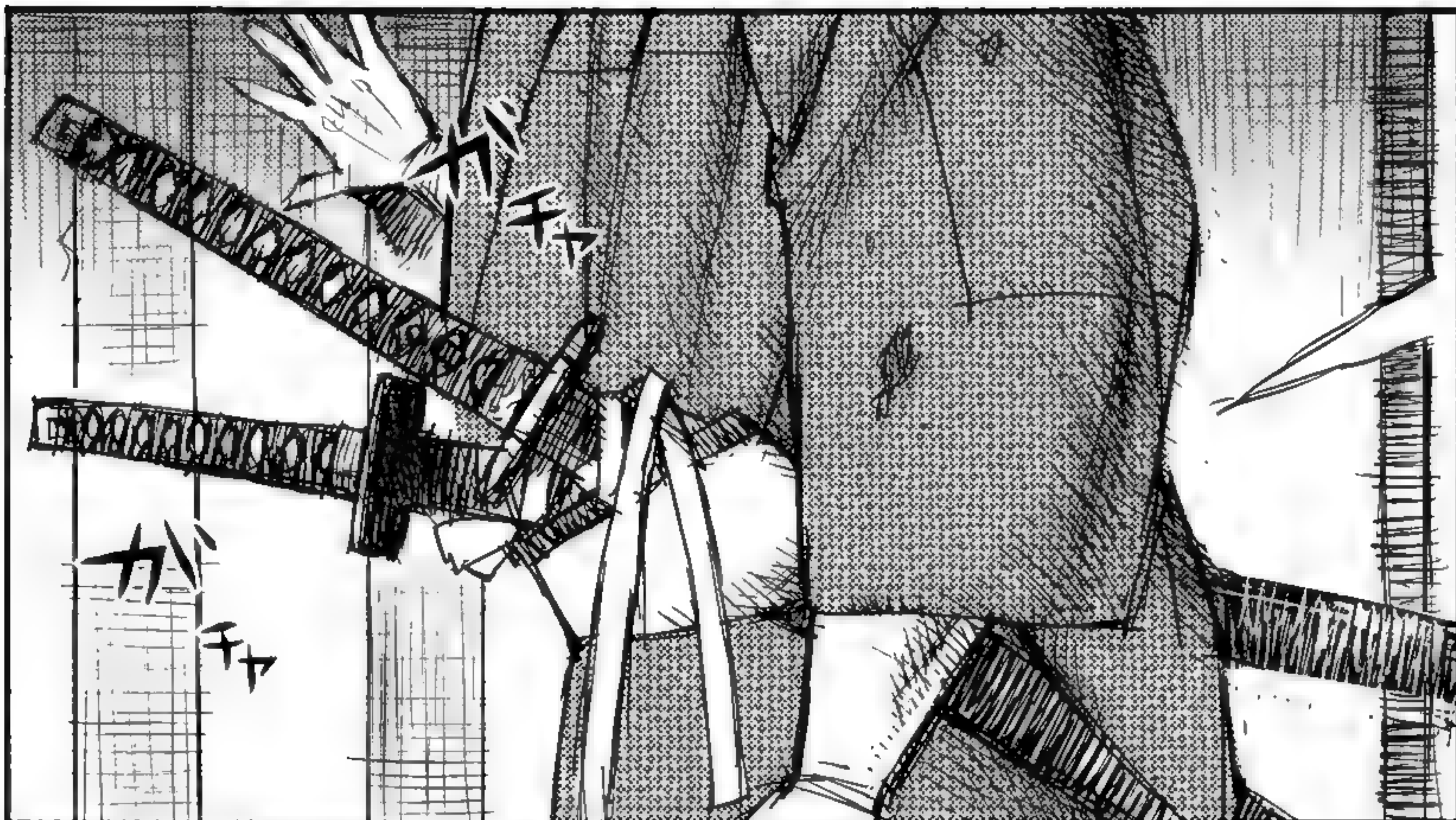


SFX:
creak x2





SFX:
clack x2



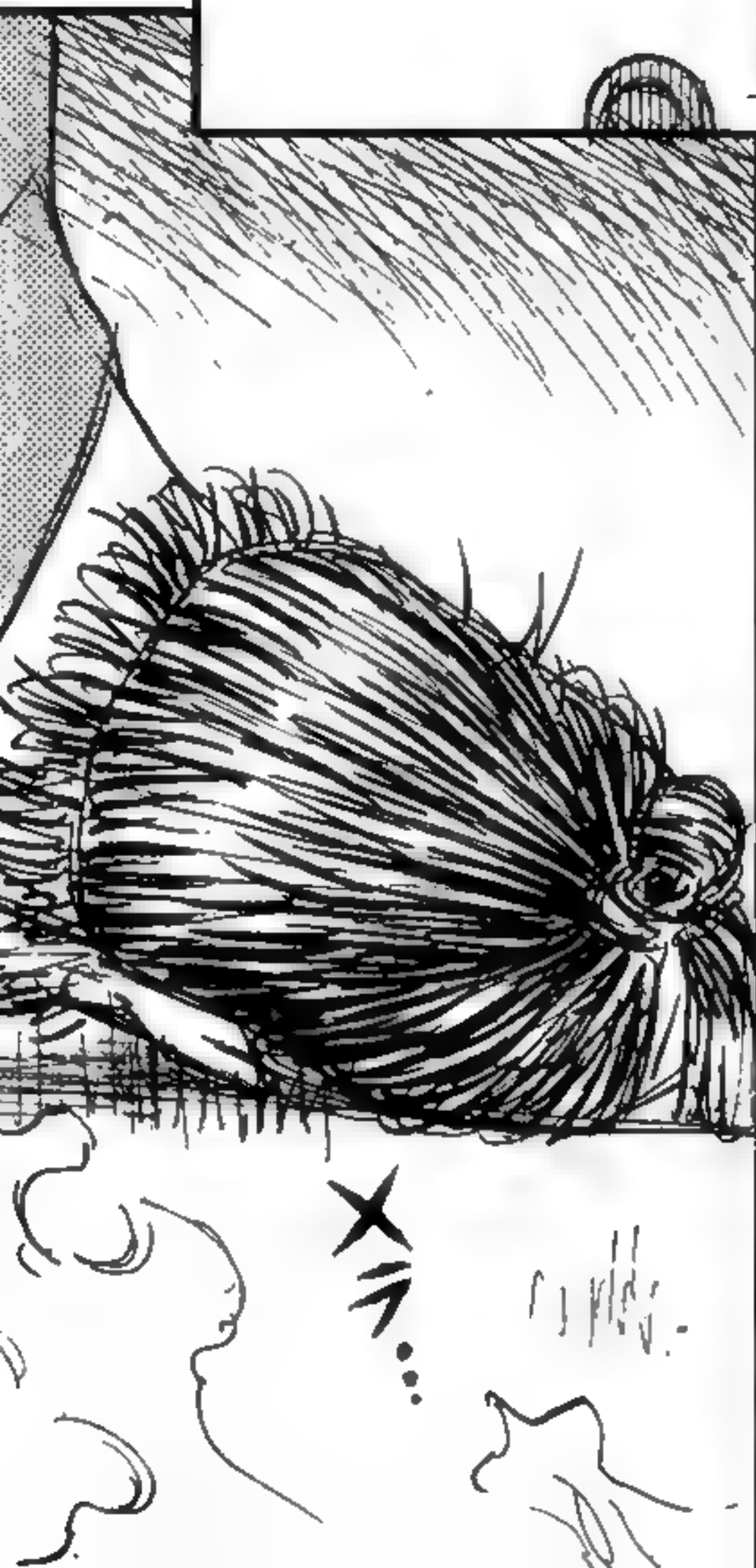
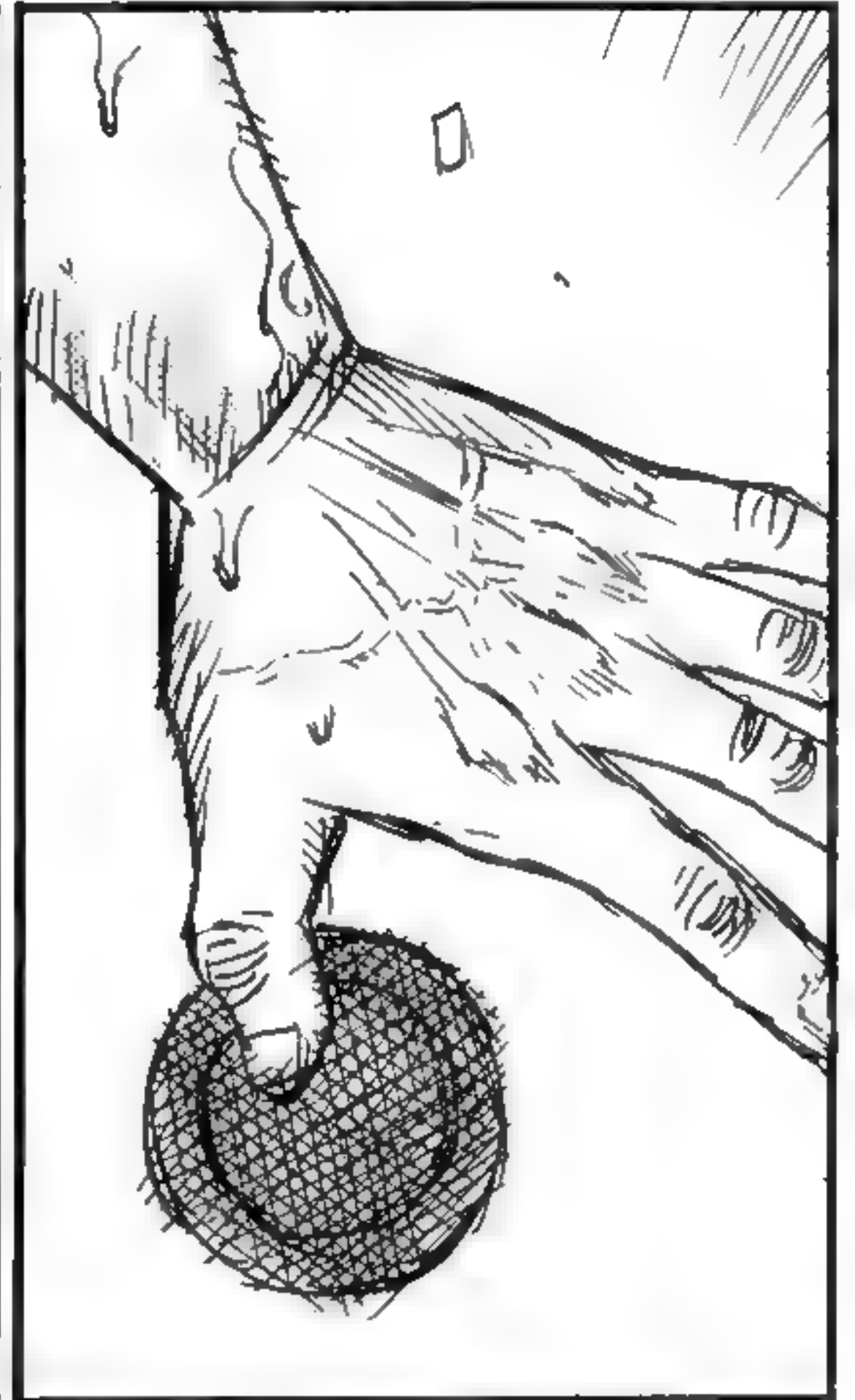
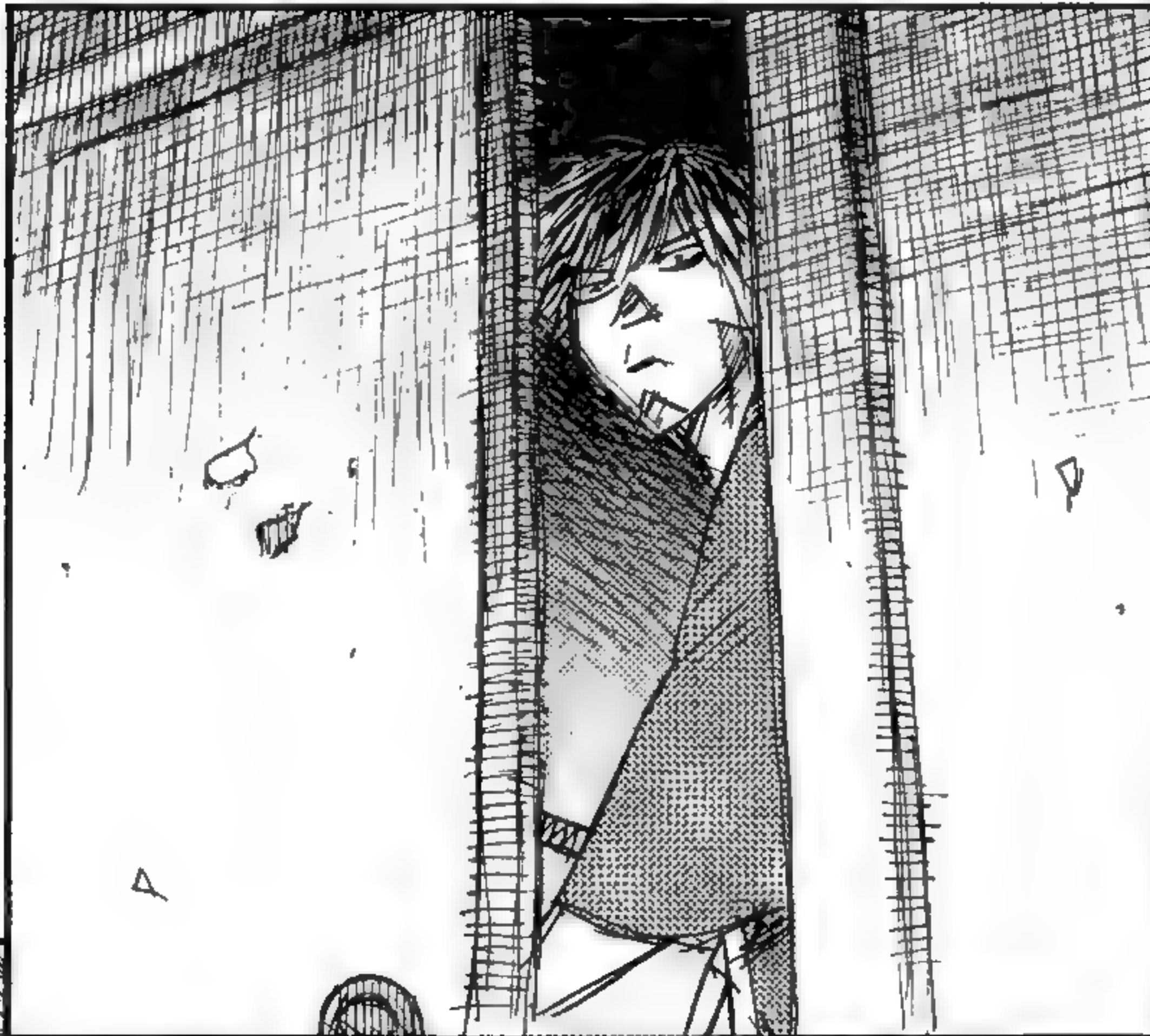
**ANSWER ME,
IMUTA!**

**WHY ARE
YOU SO
QUIET?**



**ARE YOU
THERE?!**

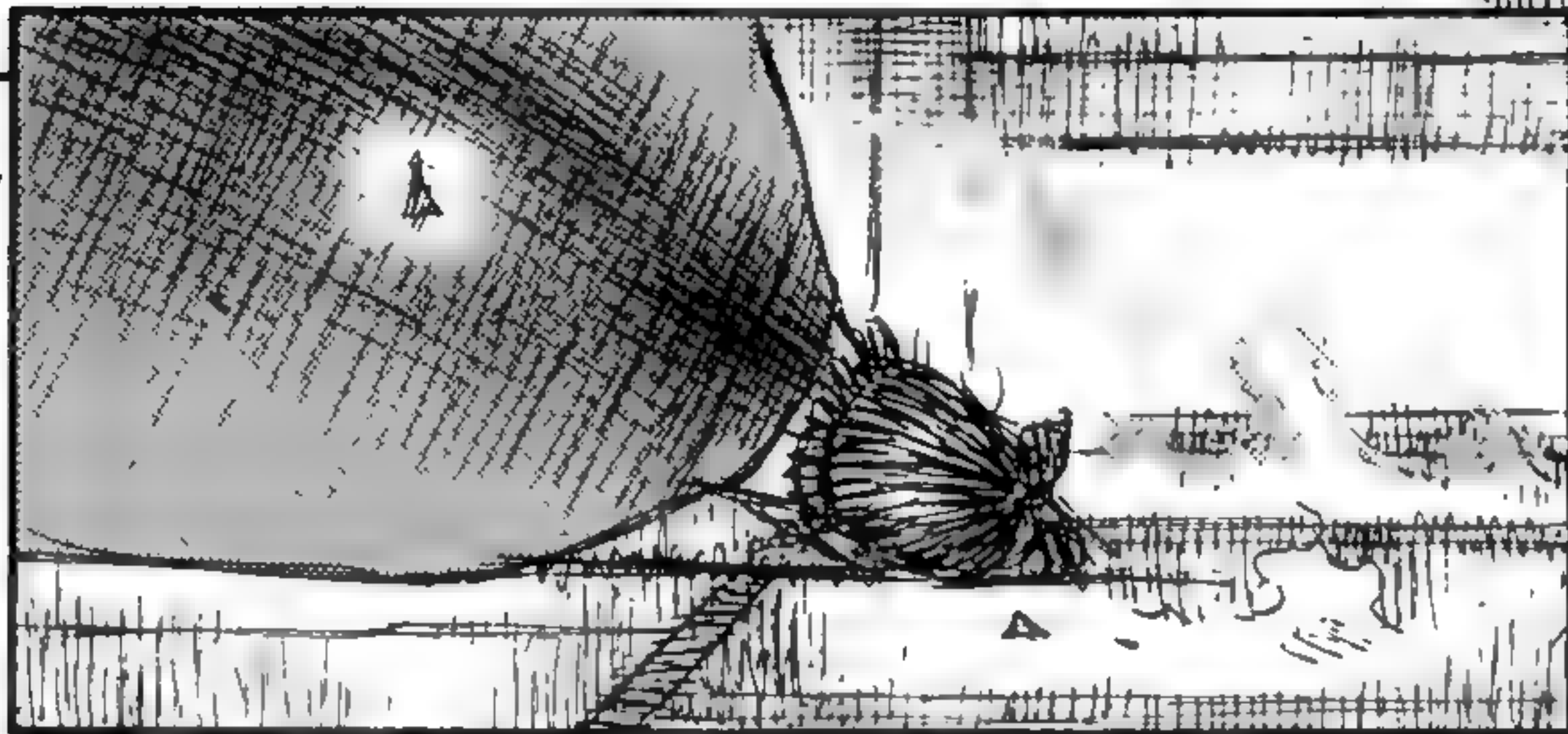
IMUTA!



SFX:
crackle x2,
flare



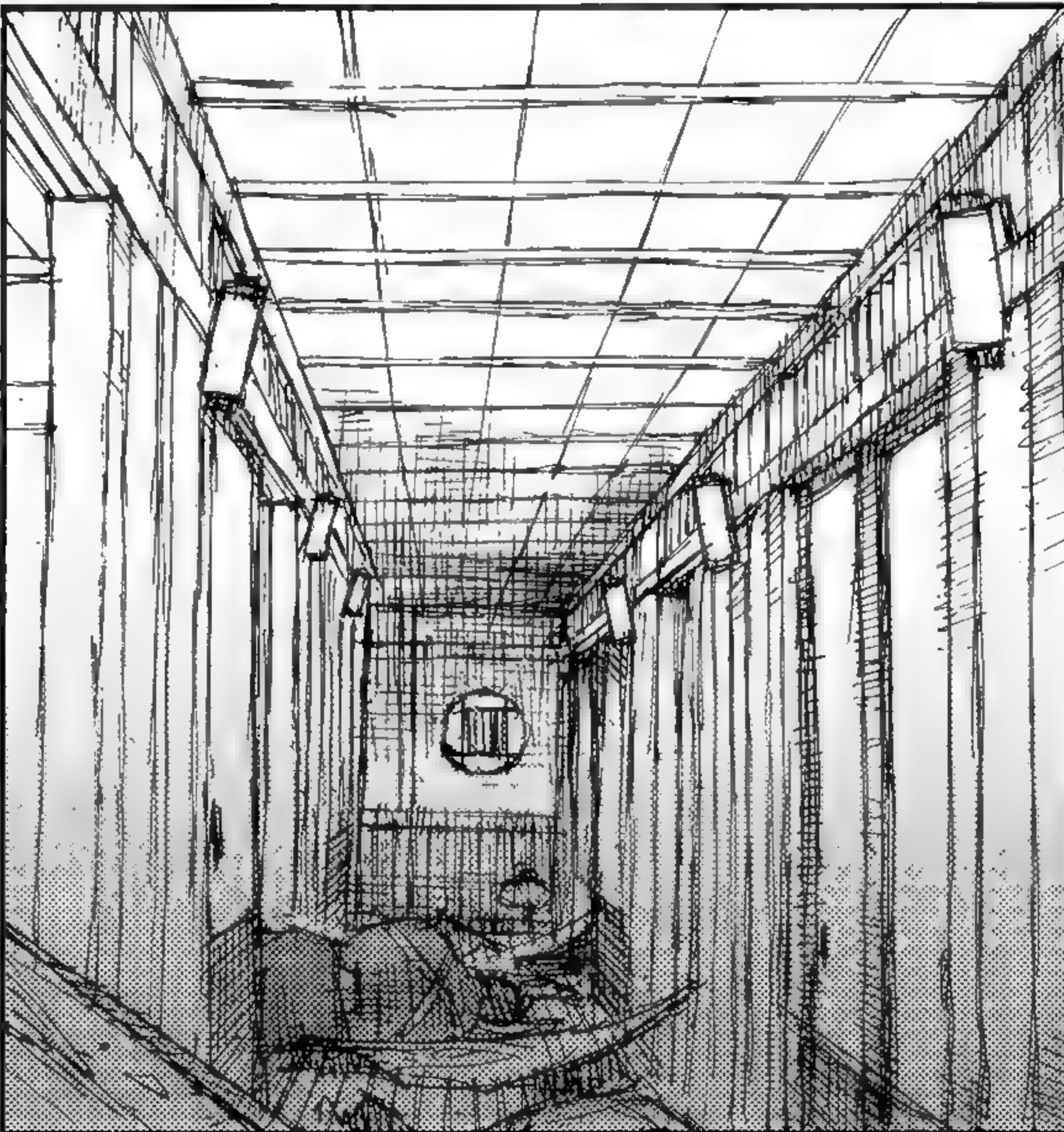
SFX:
crackle,
pop x2



IMUTA...



SFX:
crackle





WHERE
IS SHE?

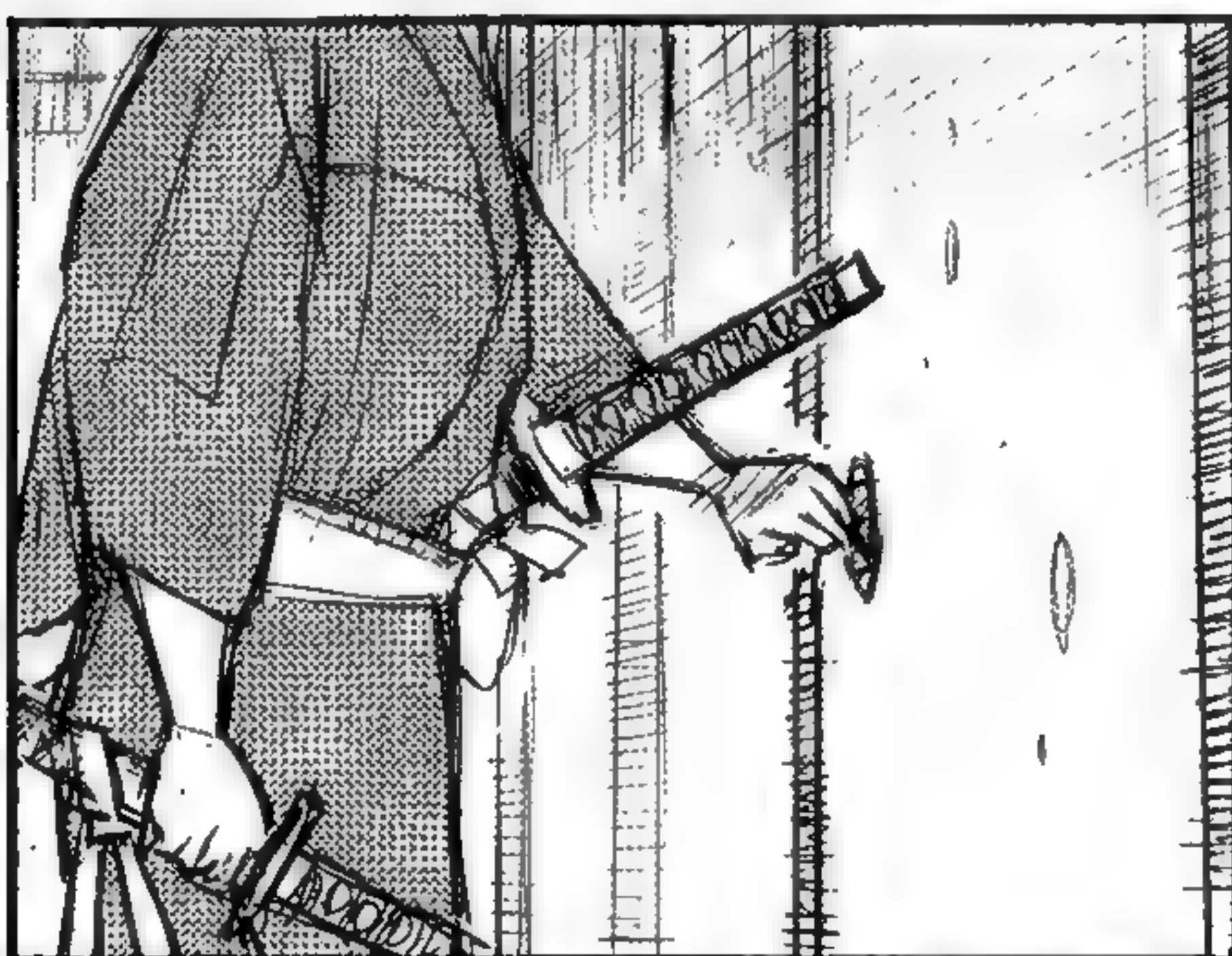
SHIT



SONOOOOO!



SONO!









DRINK SLOWLY...
SO YOU
DON'T
CHOKe.

MHM.

SFX:
glub glub
glub



OR AT LEAST
TIED UP YOUR
HANDS WITH
ROPE...

HE
COULD'VE
CHOSEN
A BETTER
PLACE TO
HIDE YOU,

STILL,
IMUTA'S
NOT TOO
SMART.



THAT IT'D
BE A BIG
PROBLEM
IF I GOT
CAUGHT UP
IN THE
FIGHTIN'...

AND
NOT TO
COME OUT
UNTIL IT'S
QUIET...

HE TOLD
ME TO GO
INTO THE
CLOSET...

HUH?

THAT'S
NOT HOW
IT WAS,
MR. USHI-
GOROU.

SFX:
aaahh



AND WHEN
I CAME TO,
YOU WERE
IN FRONT
OF ME, MR.
USHIGOROU.

I WAS
DOZIN' OFF
SITTING
HERE....



...YEAH,



IS MR.
IMUTA...?

UM,



RIGHT...



HE'S LOST
A LOT OF
BLOOD
FROM THAT
WOUND.

EVEN IF HE
IS ALIVE, HE
WON'T HAVE
LONG.

HE'S
PROBABLY
CROAKED.



THE
OBJECT
OF YOUR
REVENGE?

BUT
ISN'T MR.
IMUTA...

IT'S GOT
NOTHIN'
TO DO
WITH ME...

WELL, IF
HE DOES
SURVIVE...



OUR TALK
JUST NOW
MADE IT
CLEAR.

EH?

IT WASN'T
IMUTA WHO
KILLED
CHIYO.



BUT
WHY?

HELL IF
I KNOW.

HE WON'T
SAY ANY-
THIN'

DID MR.
IMUTA
TELL YOU
THAT?

I DID
BRING
HIM A
SWORD,
BUT...

THERE'S
NO LONGER
ANY REASON
TO FIGHT
THE GUY.





THOUGH HE
ALREADY
RAN AWAY.

ASK THE
BOSS THAT,
NOT ME.

GOT IT...?
WHY WOULD
MR. USHI-
GOROU...?



YOUR DAYS
OF SERVICE
ARE OVER
NOW.

WELL,



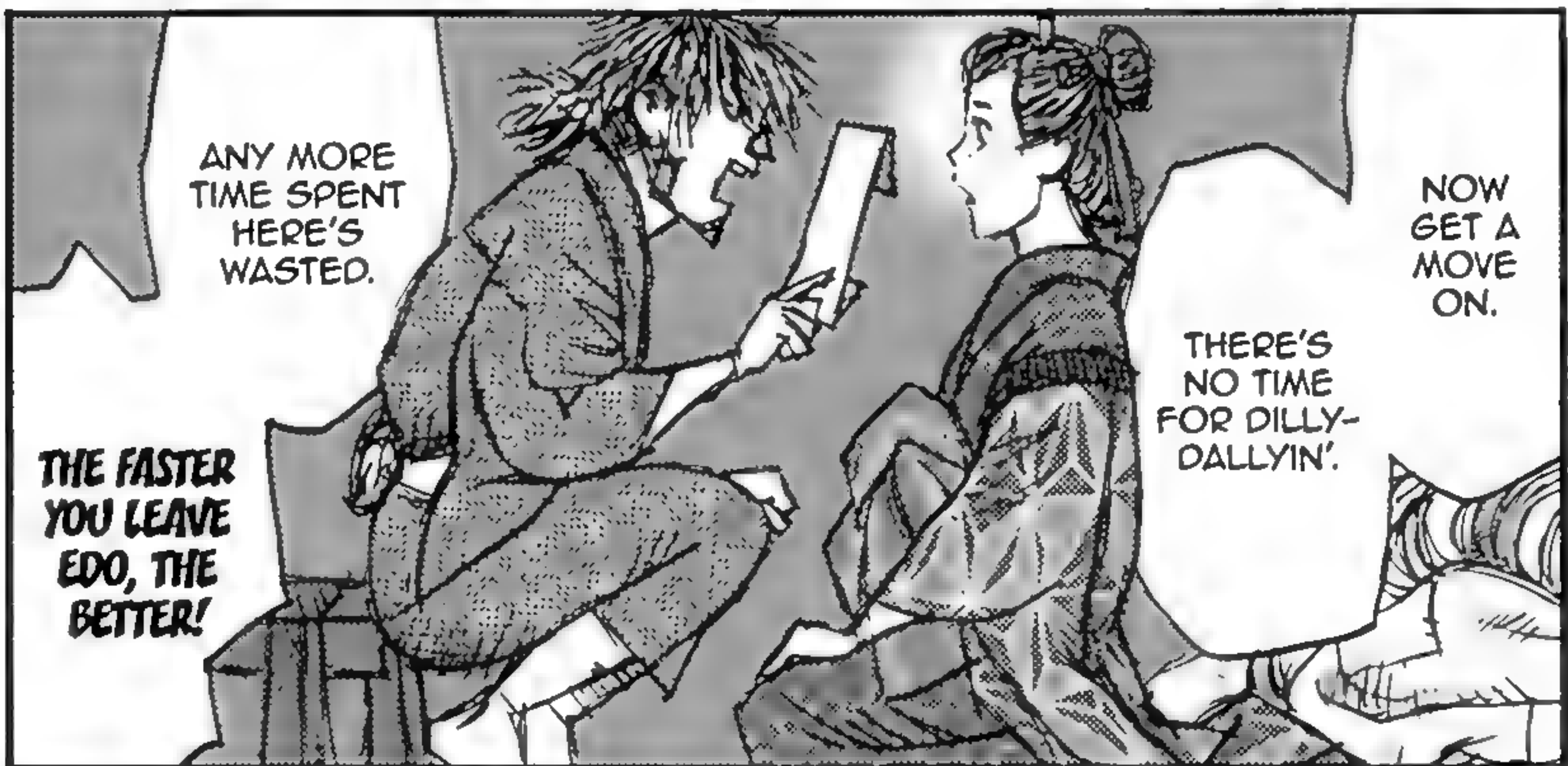
**YOU'RE
GOING
HOME!**

**HURRY UP
AND GRAB
YOUR STUFF!**

**WHAT
ARE YOU
DAWDLIN'
FOR?!**



SFX: jolt



SFX:
shake,
clatter

**WHY, MR.
USHIGOROU?!**

**C-C-
CALM
DOWN,
SONO...!**

WHY?!

SONO...

**WHY
SAVE
ME?!**

**THERE ARE
SCORES OF
OTHER PROS-
TITUDES!**

**AND GOT
TAKEN
AWAY...!**

**EVERY DAY
WE HAVE TO
ENTERTAIN
CUSTOMERS,
DOIN' THINGS
THAT NONE
OF US WANT
TO DO...!**

**AFTER BEING
PUNISHED,
OTAMA WENT
MAD...!**



**WHY ARE
YOU ONLY
HELPIN'
MEEEE?!**

**WHY ONLY
ME...?!**



**WHY'S IT
ME...?!**

SFX:
waaaaah



SFX:
chirp,
chirp



MAKE
SURE TO
FOLLOW IN
MY STEPS.

HOLD MY
HAND TIGHT,
IT'S NOT
SAFE...

THERE'S
ALL SORTS
OF SHARDS
STREWN
OVER THE
HALL.

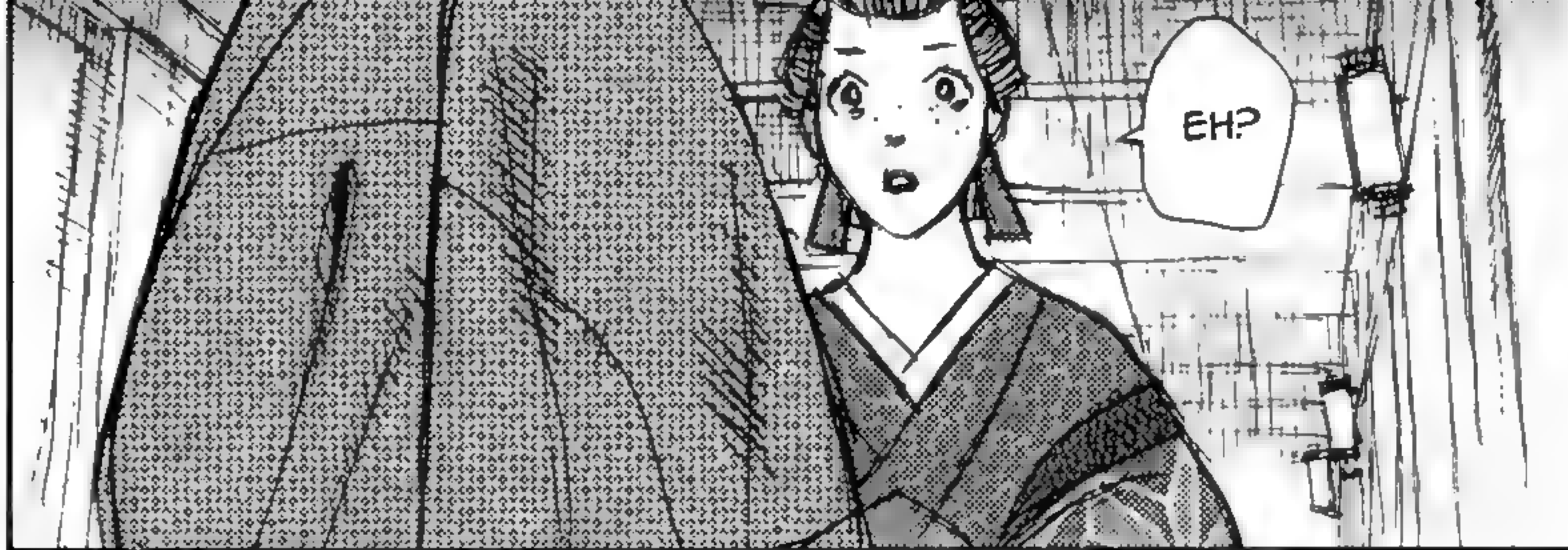


ONCE YOU
LEAVE THIS
BROTHEL,
YOU'RE NO
LONGER
SONO.

ONE
MORE
THING.



'KAY...



EH?



SO YOU
KNEW MY
NAME.

OH...
HEHE,



FROM
NOW ON,
YOU'RE JUST
A PEASANT'S
DAUGHTER.

I THINK
YOU SAID
YOU WERE
TOYO,
RIGHT?



YOU CAN
QUIT THE
ACT.

NOW THAT
YOU'RE
TOYO
AGAIN,





THERE'S
NO NEED
FOR THAT
POLITE
STUFF.

I'M NO
LONGER
A CLIENT,



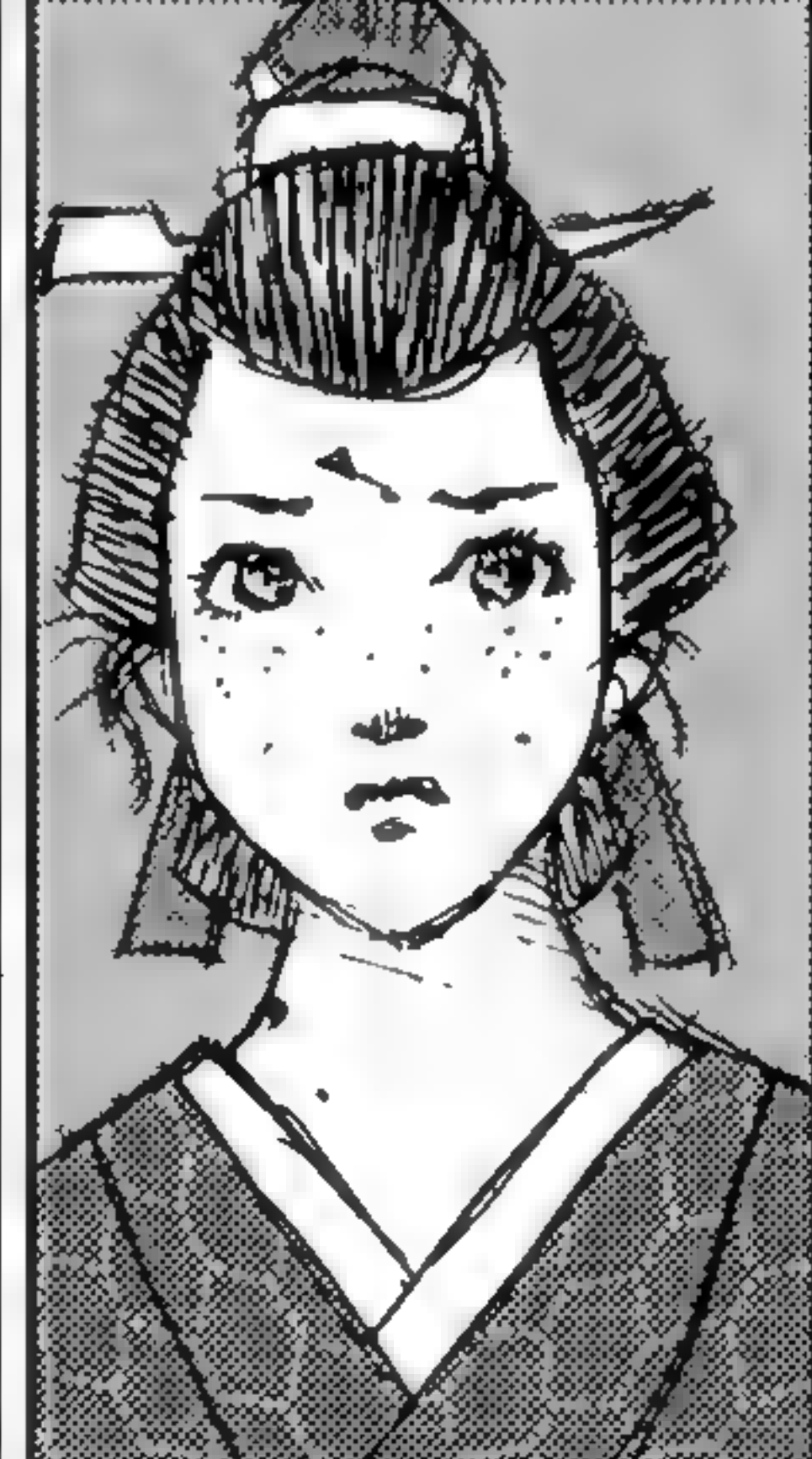
THERE'S
NO WAY
I COULD
BUY A GIRL
WITHOUT
EVEN
KNOWIN'
THAT.

SURE
I DID...



SO YOU
EVEN KNEW
ABOUT THAT,
MR. USHI-
GOROU...

OH...





SHOULD DO
AT LEAST
ONE GOOD
THING IN
YOUR LIFE...

EVEN A
SHITHEAD
LIKE YOU...



A
BUDDY
ONCE
TOLD
ME...



LIVING
A BORING
LIFE FULL O'
REGRET ISN'T
FOR ME.

BESIDES,
EVEN IF I
RAN AWAY...



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?



WASN'T
FOR
WORK.

I'LL HAVE
YOU KNOW,
THE REA-
SON I WAS
PUTTIN' IT
ON...



THAT'S
HOW
IT IS.



TO KEEP
UP THE
ACT.

IT WAS
MR. IMUTA
WHO ASKED
ME...



HE TOLD
ME TO PRO-
TECT YOUR
FEELINGS,
MR. USHI-
GOROU.

WHY
WOULD
IMUTA...



WHA-

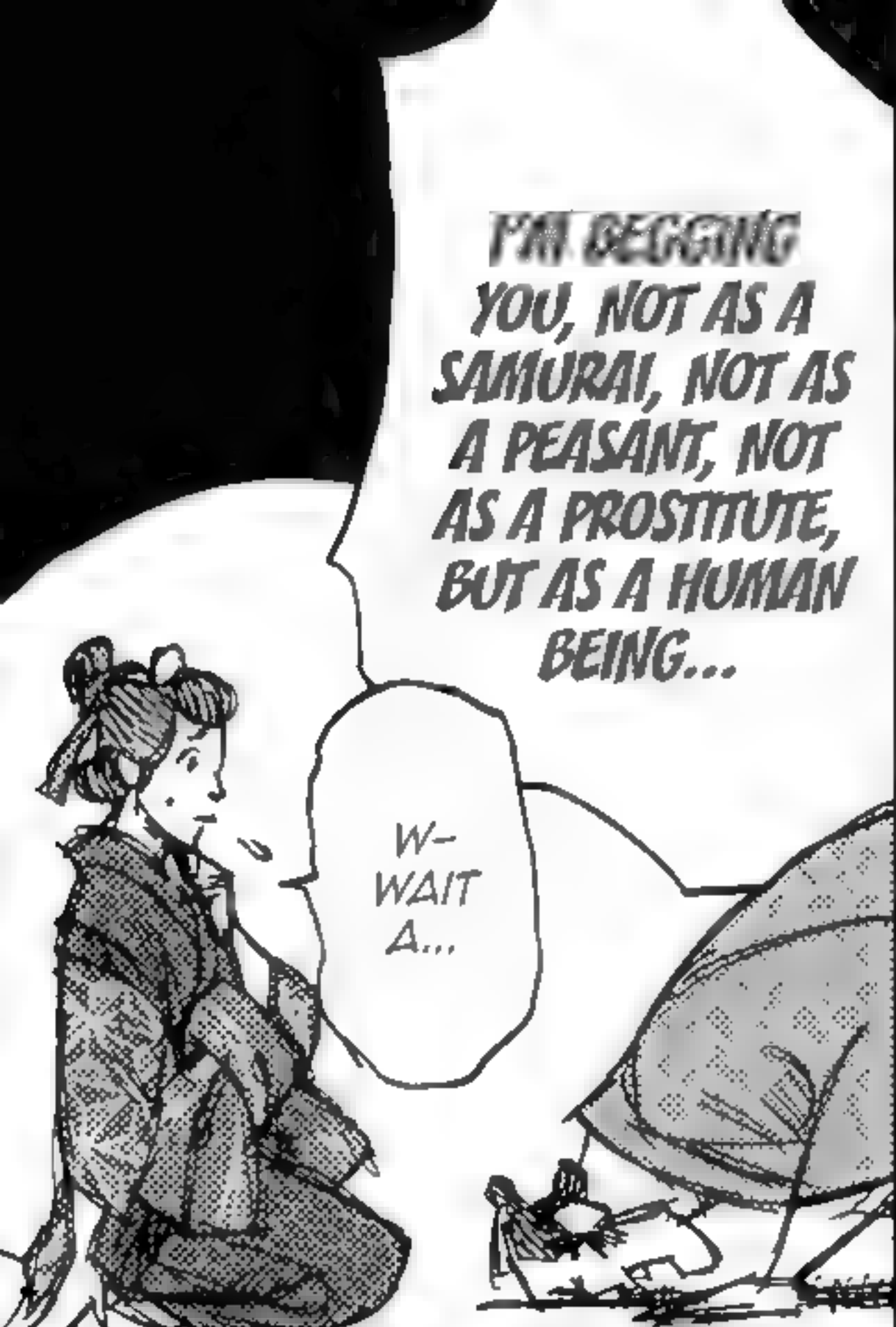
WHAT?



HE EVEN GOT
DOWN ON HIS
HANDS AND
KNEES...

HIS EYES
WELLED UP
LIKE HE WAS
TALKIN' ABOUT
HIS OWN
LOVE LIFE.





I'M BEGGING
YOU, NOT AS A
SAMURAI, NOT AS
A PEASANT, NOT AS
A PROSTITUTE,
BUT AS A HUMAN
BEING...

W-
WAIT
A...



DON'T EVER
SHOW SUCH
AN IMPUDENT
ATTITUDE TO
USHIGOROU...

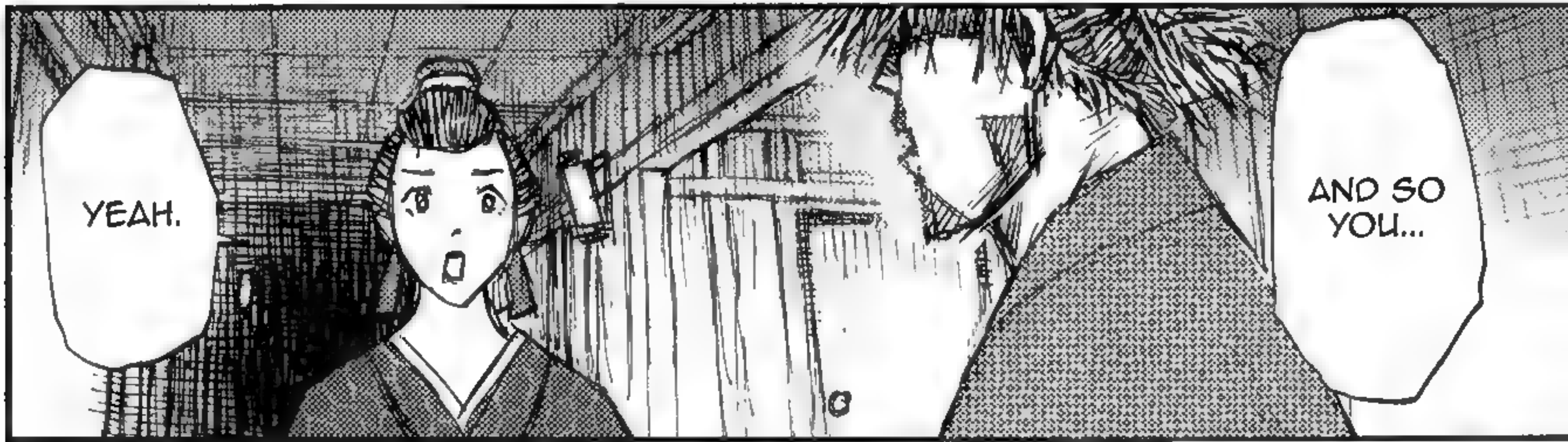
EVEN IF BY
MISTAKE,



EARNESTLY
IN LOVE!

USHI-
GOROU
IS
ALSO...!

EEK!



YEAH.

AND SO YOU...



YOU
KNEW
I WAS
ACTIN' THE
WHOLE
TIME...

BUT IT
WAS ALL
IN VAIN,



MAKES
MY SKIN
CRAWL...

.....



IT'S NOT
GOOD TO
SEE THEIR
FACE...

WHEN
YOU KILL
SOME-
ONE,



SMELLS
LIKE
SOME-
THING'S
BURNIN'.

BUT
HEY,



AND
IT'S
ALSO
WHERE
IMUTA
IS.

THERE'S
A FIRE
IN THAT
ROOM
OVER
THERE...



WHAT
DID
YOU
SAY?



I'VE GOTTA
GO GET THE
SWORDS I
LEFT IN THE
ROOM.

SORRY,
BUT GO
AHEAD AND
WAIT FOR
ME DOWN-
STAIRS.



MR.
USHI-
GOROU!



I NEED
'EM.



WHY
THE
SWORDS
...?



SETTLE
THINGS
PROPERLY
WITH
IMUTA...

I HAVE
TO...



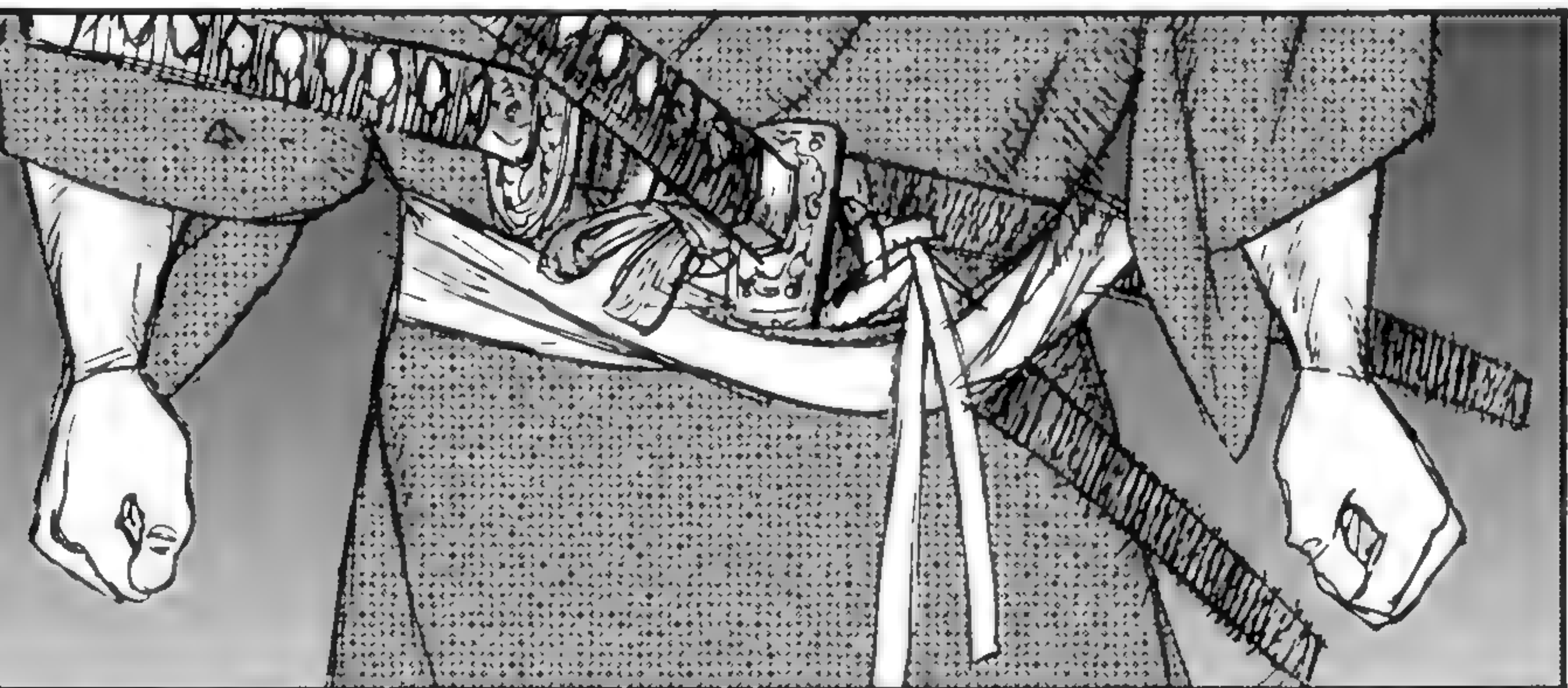
DON'T
WORRY,

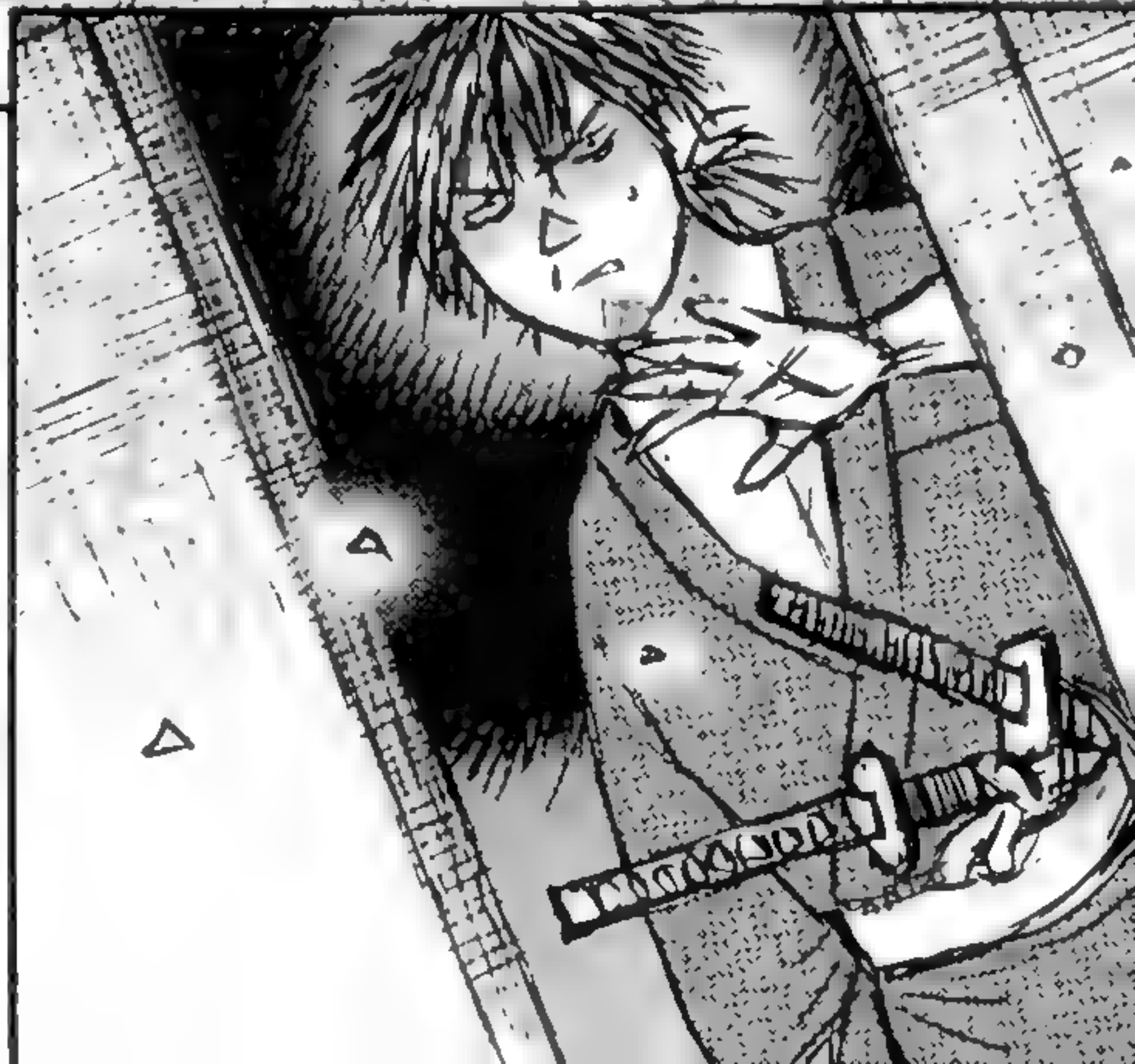
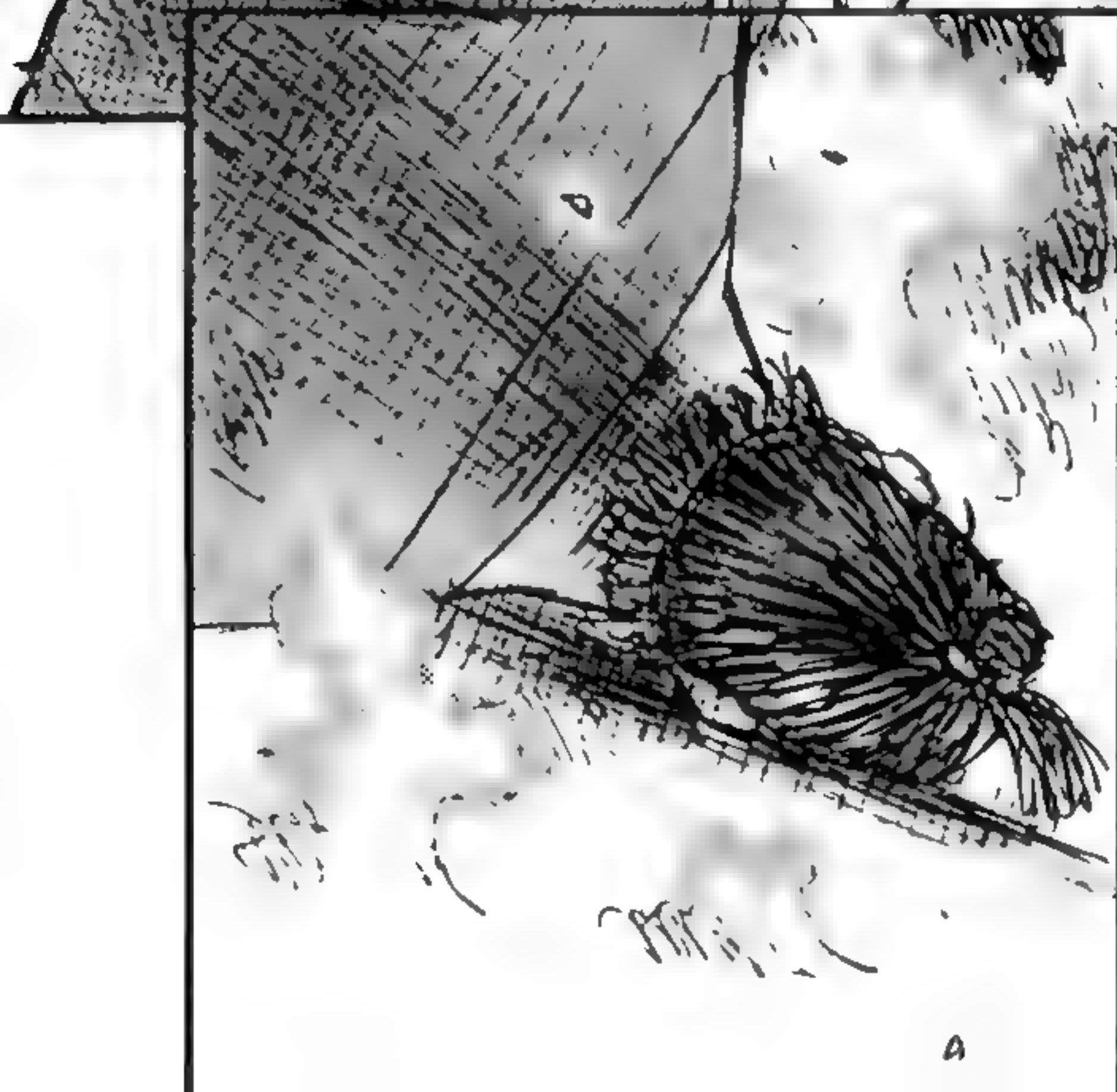
IT'S
OKAY.



I'LL BE
RIGHT
BACK.









**WAKE
UP!**

**OI,
IMUTA!**



**I'VE
BROUGHT
YOU A
SWORD,
IMUTA!**

**YOUR
SWORD!**



SFX:
rise

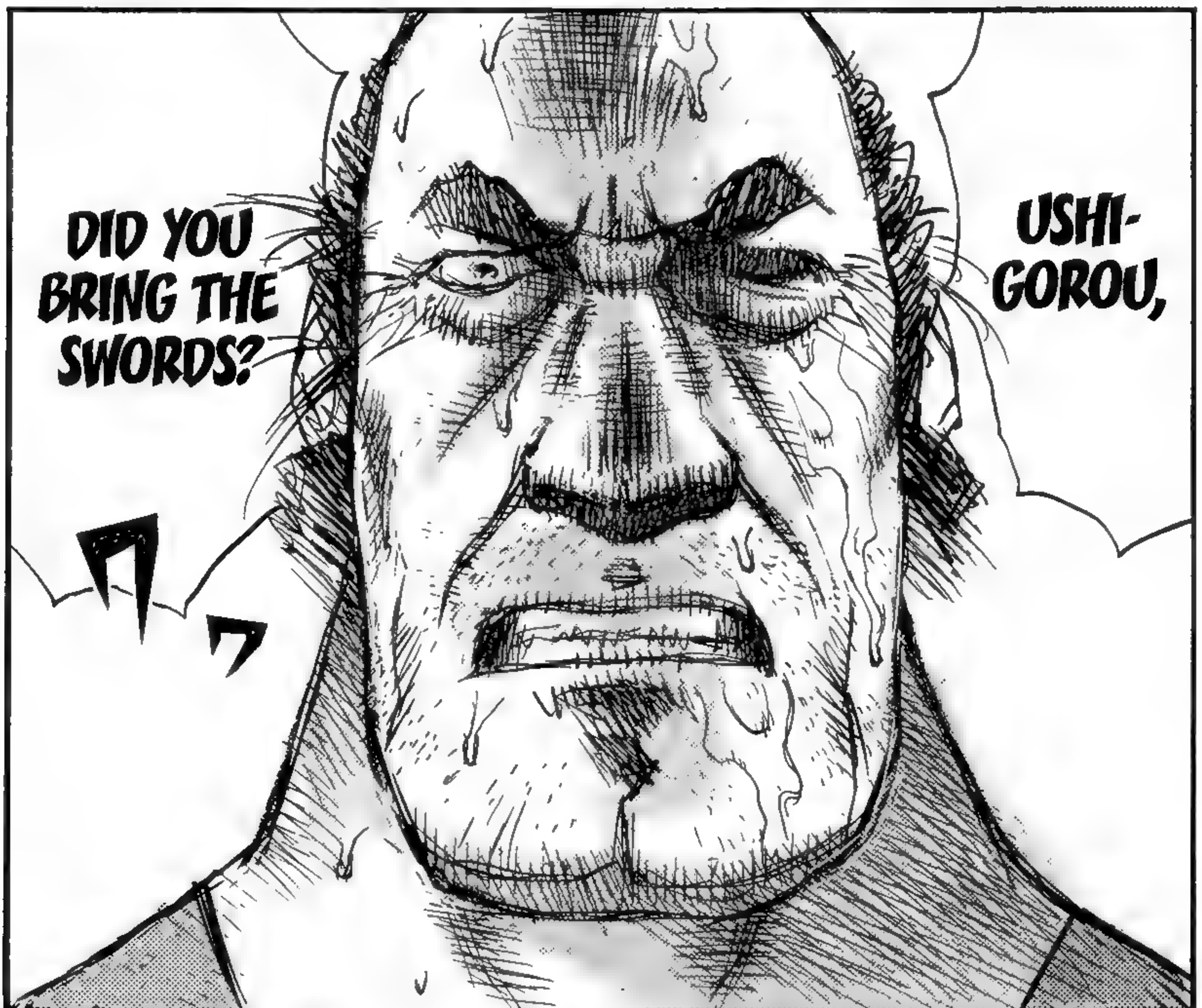


**YOU'RE
HERE!!!**

HOOO!!!



CHAPTER 46: CONCLUSION



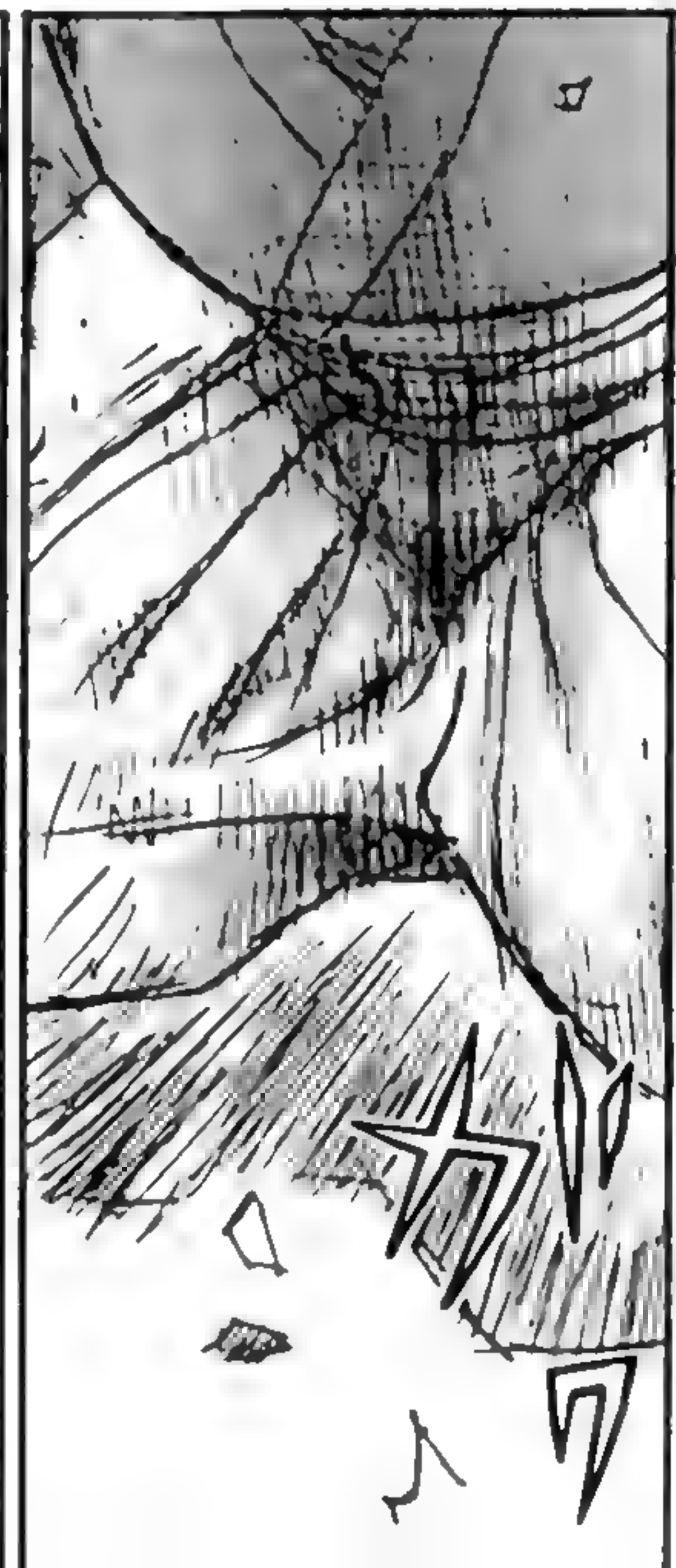
SFX:
stagger

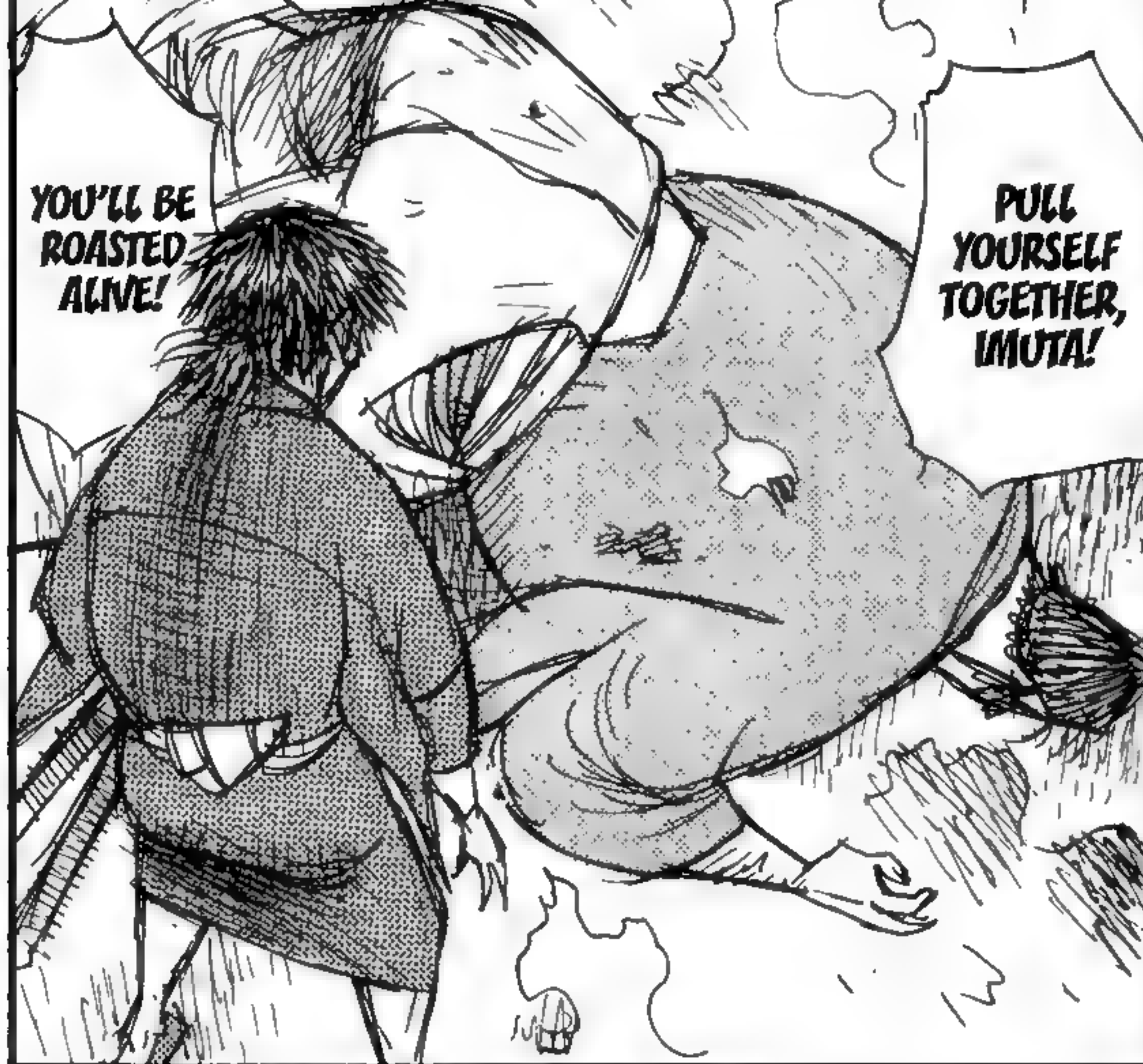


SFX:
thud



SFX:
buckle





**YOU'LL BE
ROASTED
ALIVE!**

**PULL
YOURSELF
TOGETHER,
IMUTA!**



AH!

SFX:
flare



**I'VE
GOT NO
CHOICE.**



SHIT!

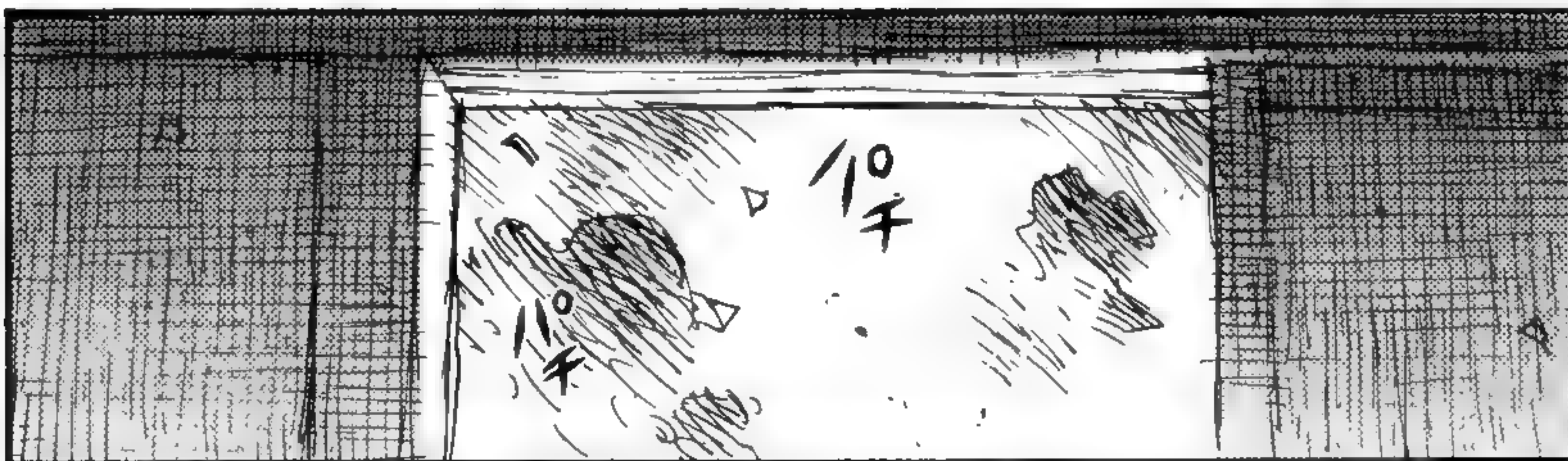
SFX:
slap,
pat



SFX:
roar (fire)



SFX:
drag



SFX:
crackle x2





SFX:
thud





**ARE YOU
LISTENIN'??**



**HEY,
IMUTA!**

**I'M
PUTTIN'
YOUR
SWORD
HERE!**



TCH!

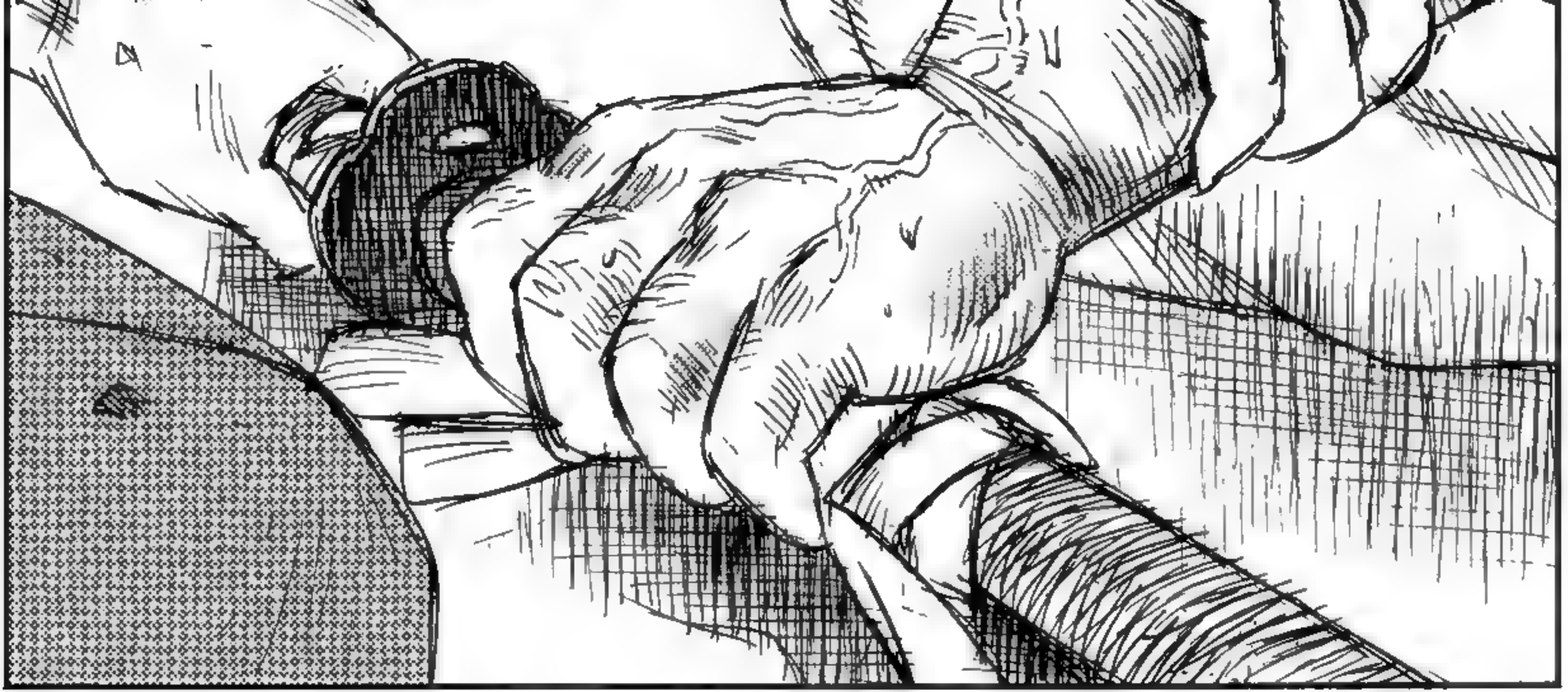


**YOU
FEEL THAT??
IT'S YOUR
SWORD!**

HERE!



**GIMME
YOUR
HAND.**



**CERTAINLY
RECEIVED
IT!**

I HAVE...

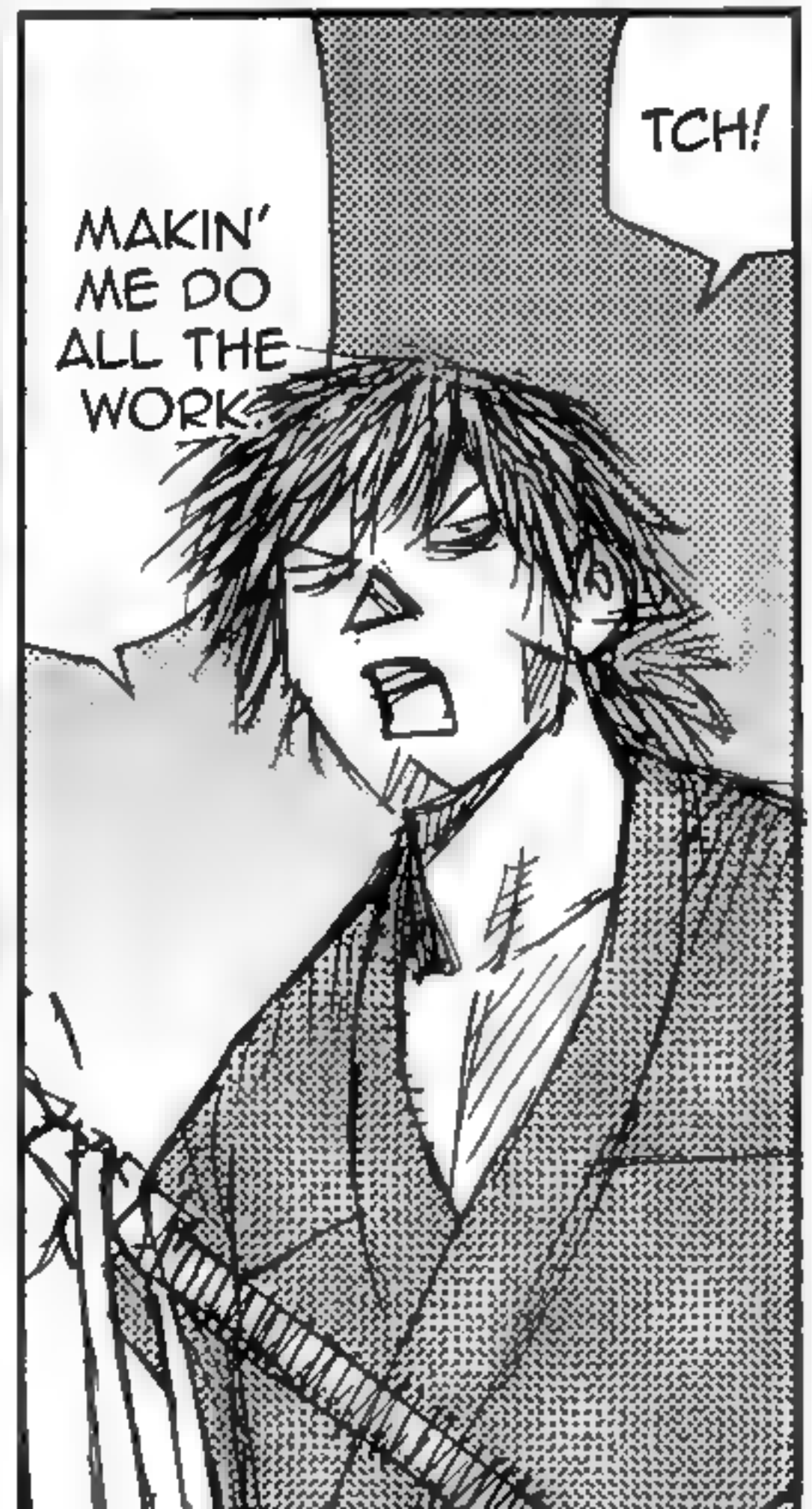


**IT'S AN
ABSURDLY
BIG AND
HEAVY
ONE!**

**WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?!**



Clack



**MAKIN'
ME DO
ALL THE
WORK.**

TCH!



SFX: huff x2

THIS
GAME
OF TAG,
IMUTA.

YOU
WIN...



CUT THE
CRAP,
USHI-
GOROU.

HMPH.



EVERY-
THING'S
GOING
AS YOU
PLANNED.

I FELL RIGHT
INTO YOUR
TRAP AND
DRAGGED MY
FEET BACK
HERE...



I CAN'T
EVEN MOVE
ON MY
OWN.

LOOK
AT ME,



HOLD OUT
SOMEHOW OR
ANOTHER!

ALL YOU
NEED IS THE
ENERGY FOR
ONE SWING!



NO
PROB-
LEM,
WE'RE
DONE WITH
TRICKERY.



**THE ONE
STRIKE
STYLE...!**

HOOO...!



**ONE
STRIKE,
GOT IT?!**



**NOW
YOU'VE GOT
NO COM-
PLAINTS!**

**THAT'S
RIGHT!**



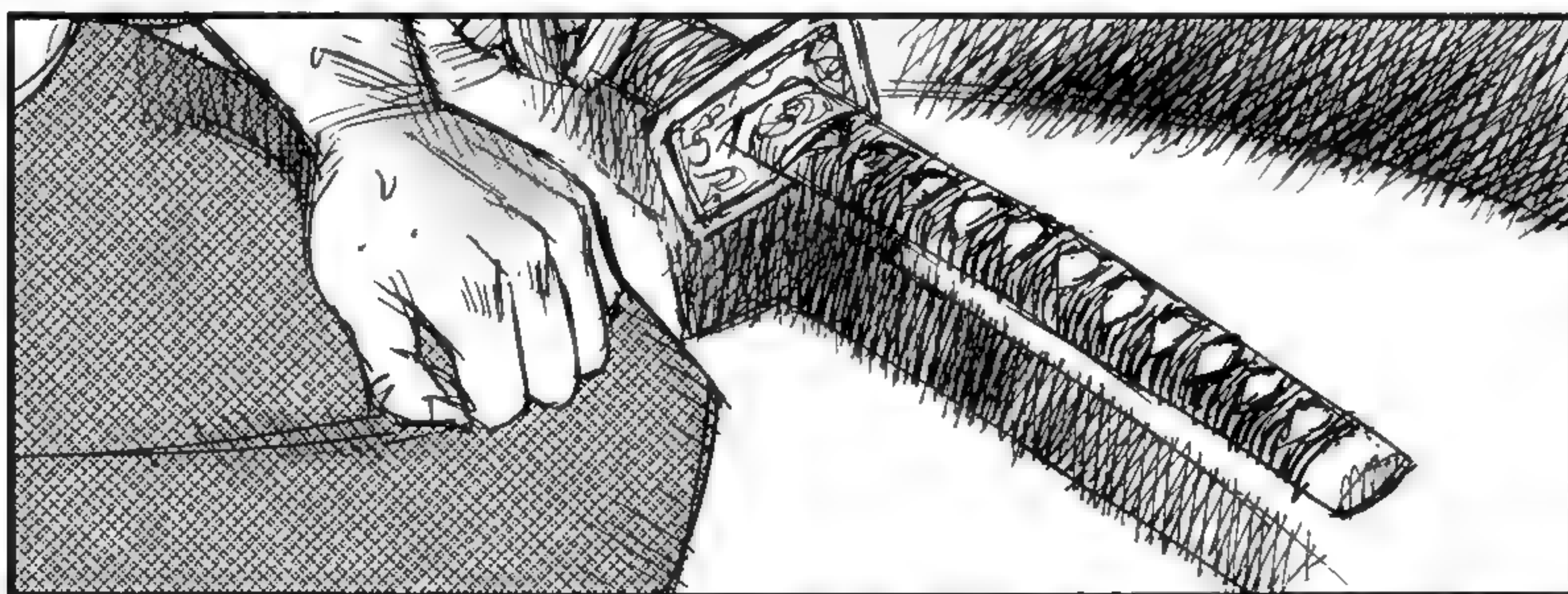
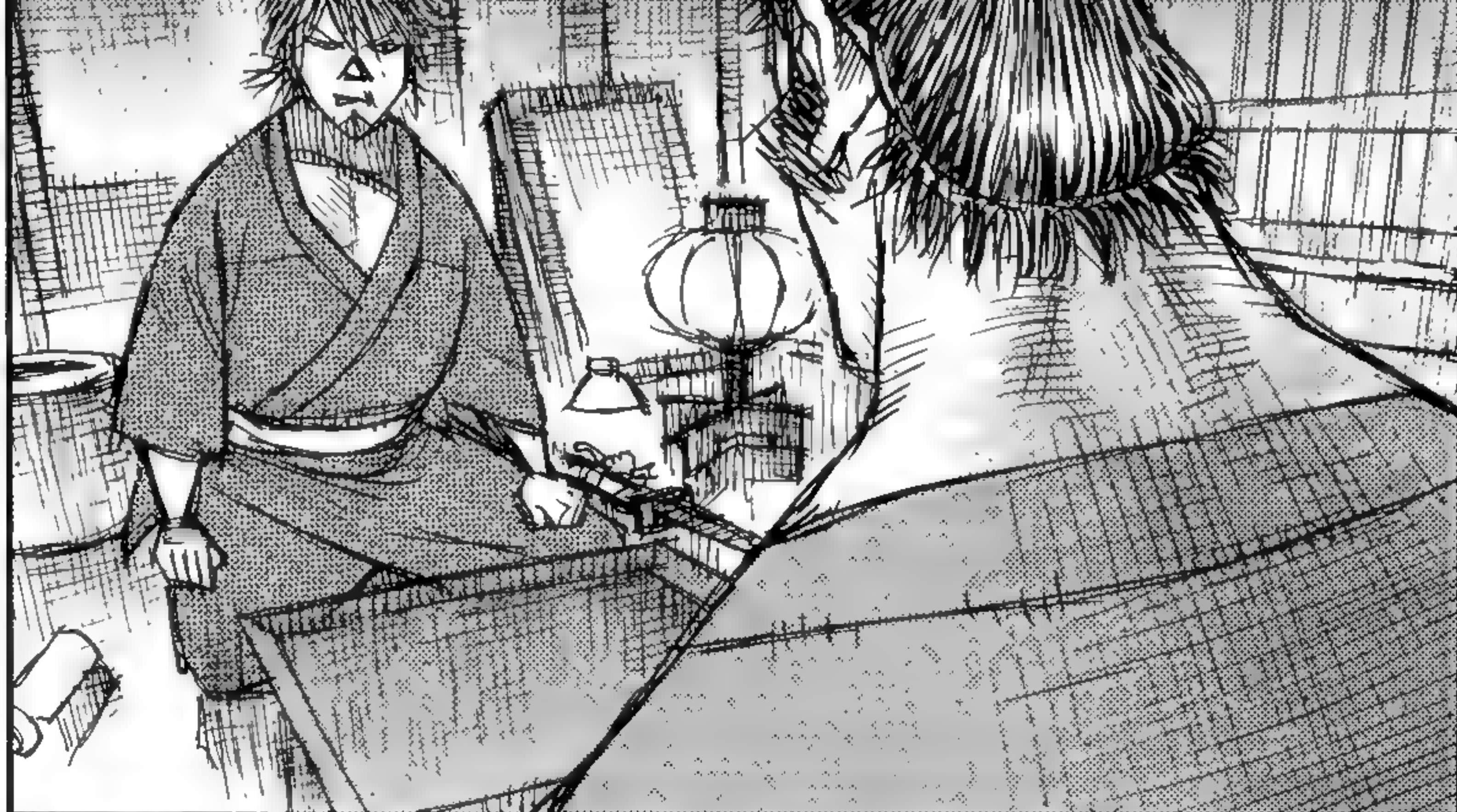
**LET'S
FIGHT!!!**

**LET'S
END
THIS!!!**



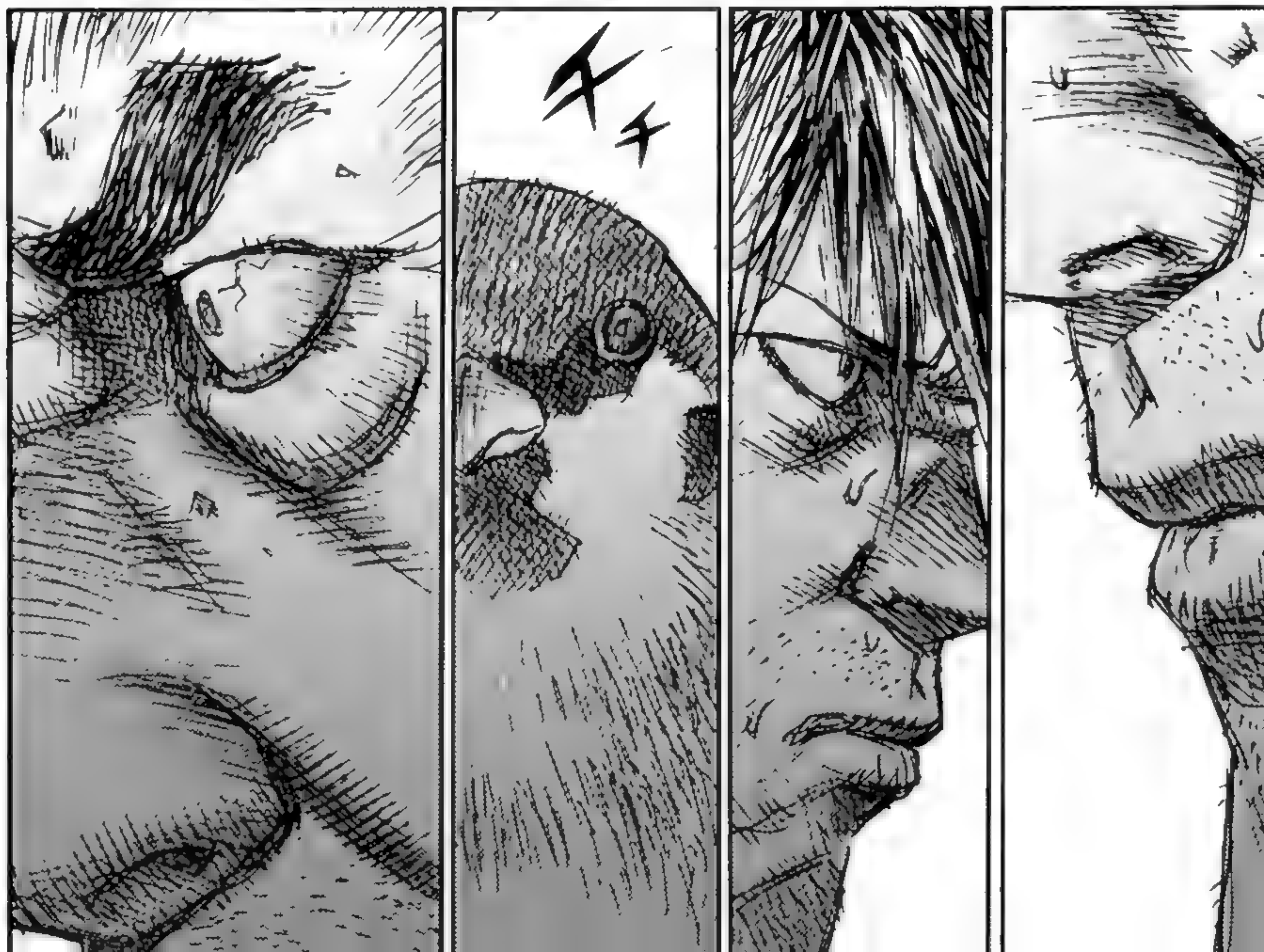
GRRR!

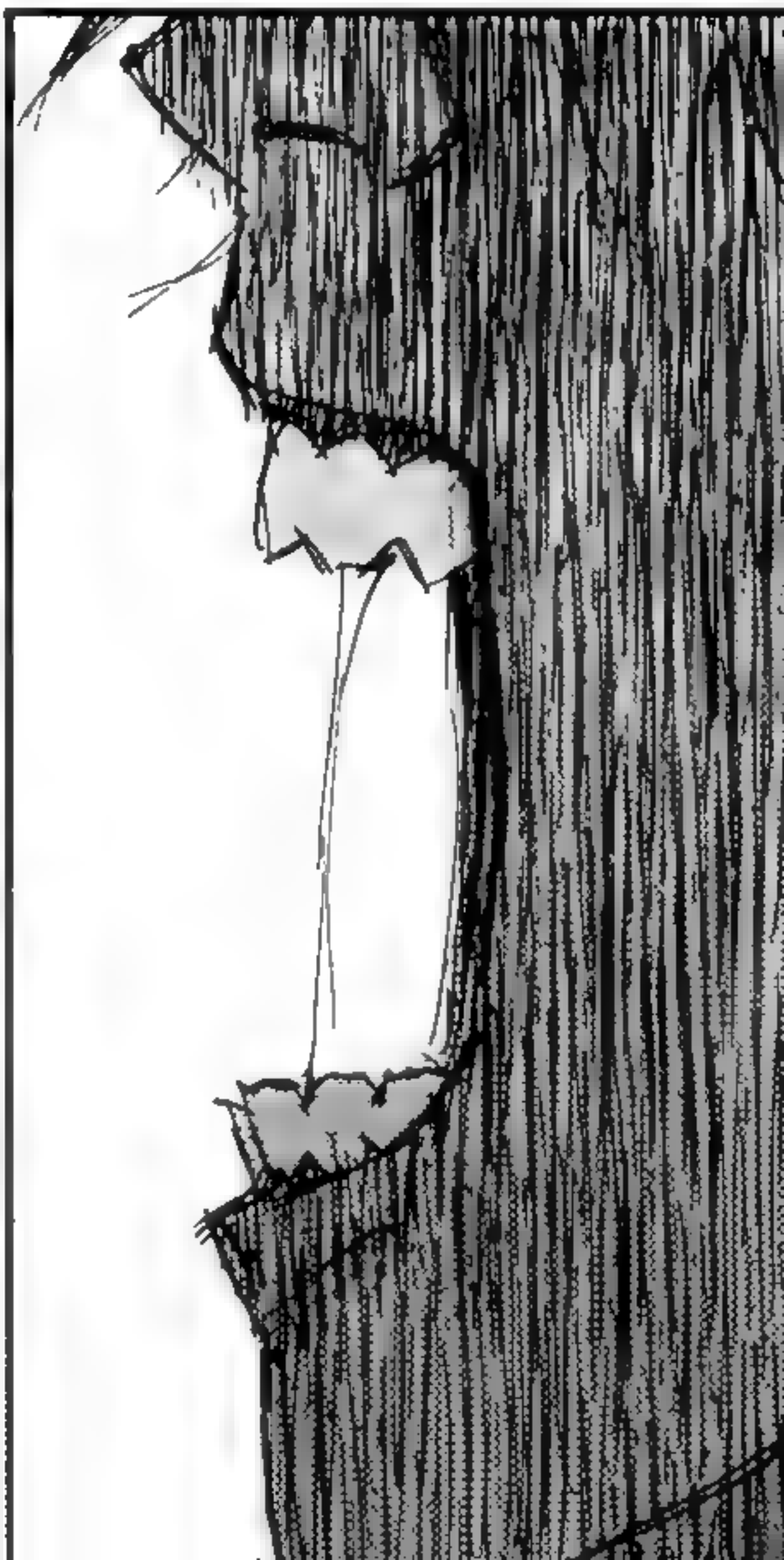
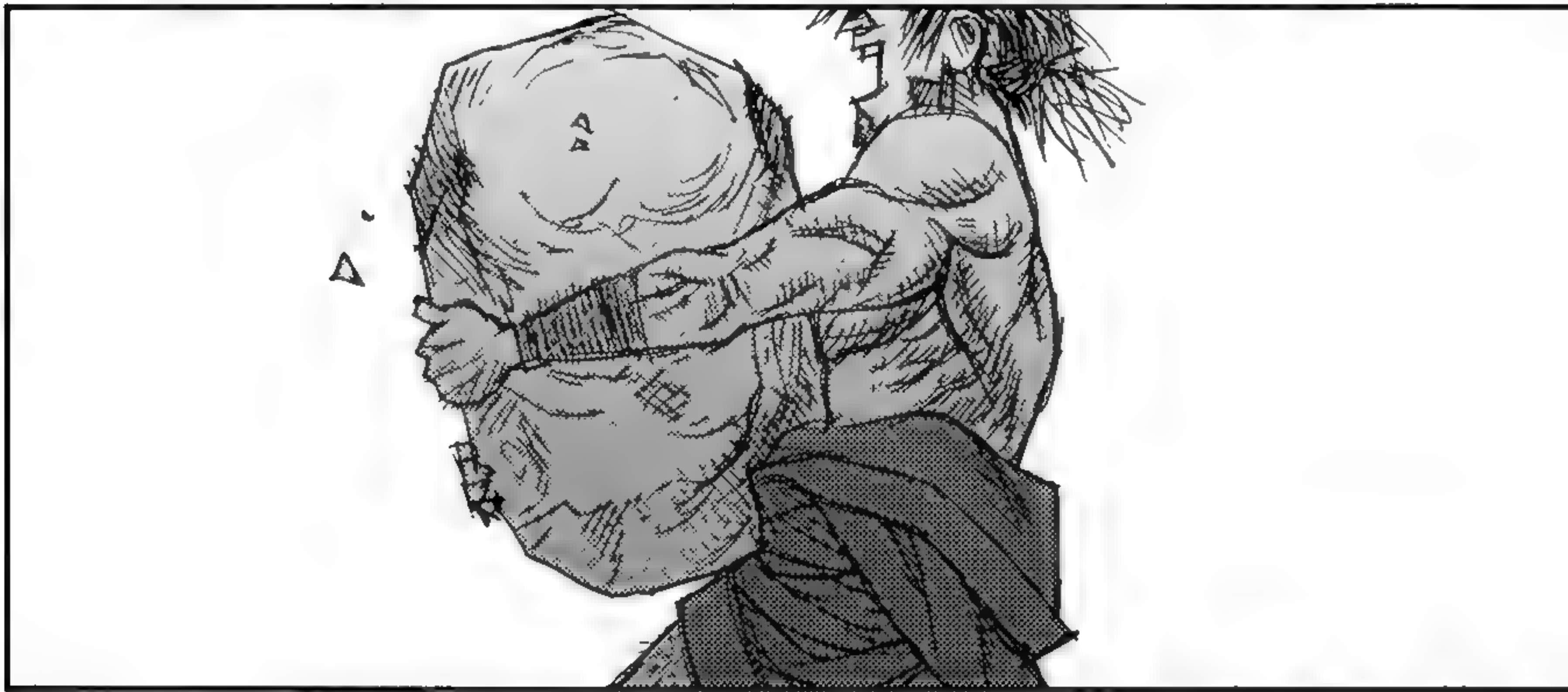
SFX:
ba-dump

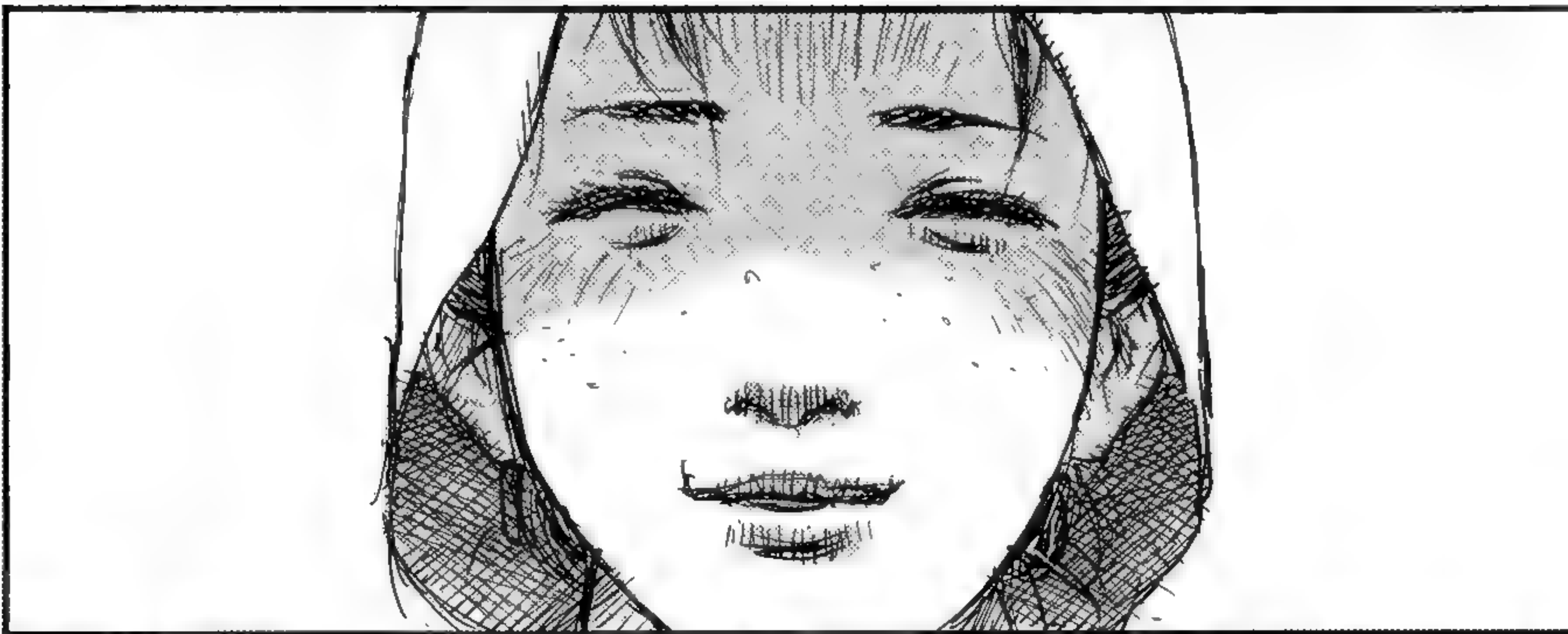
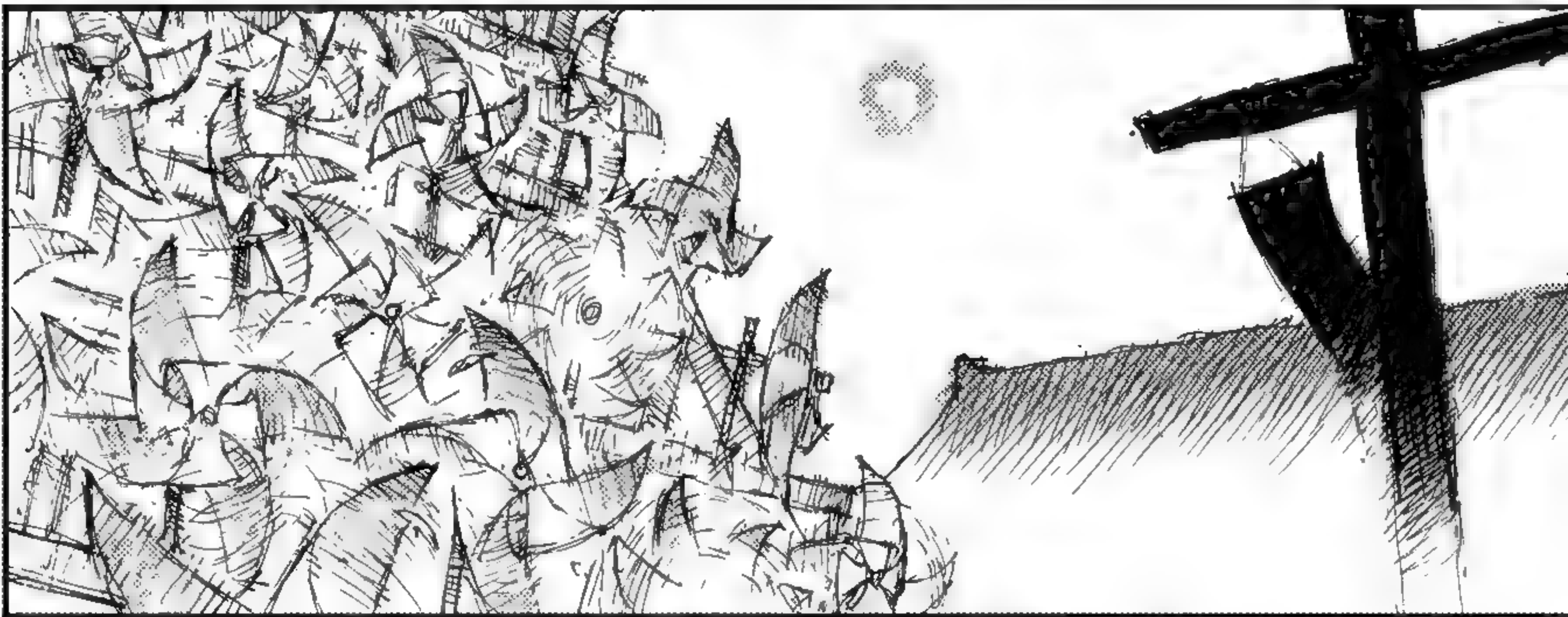
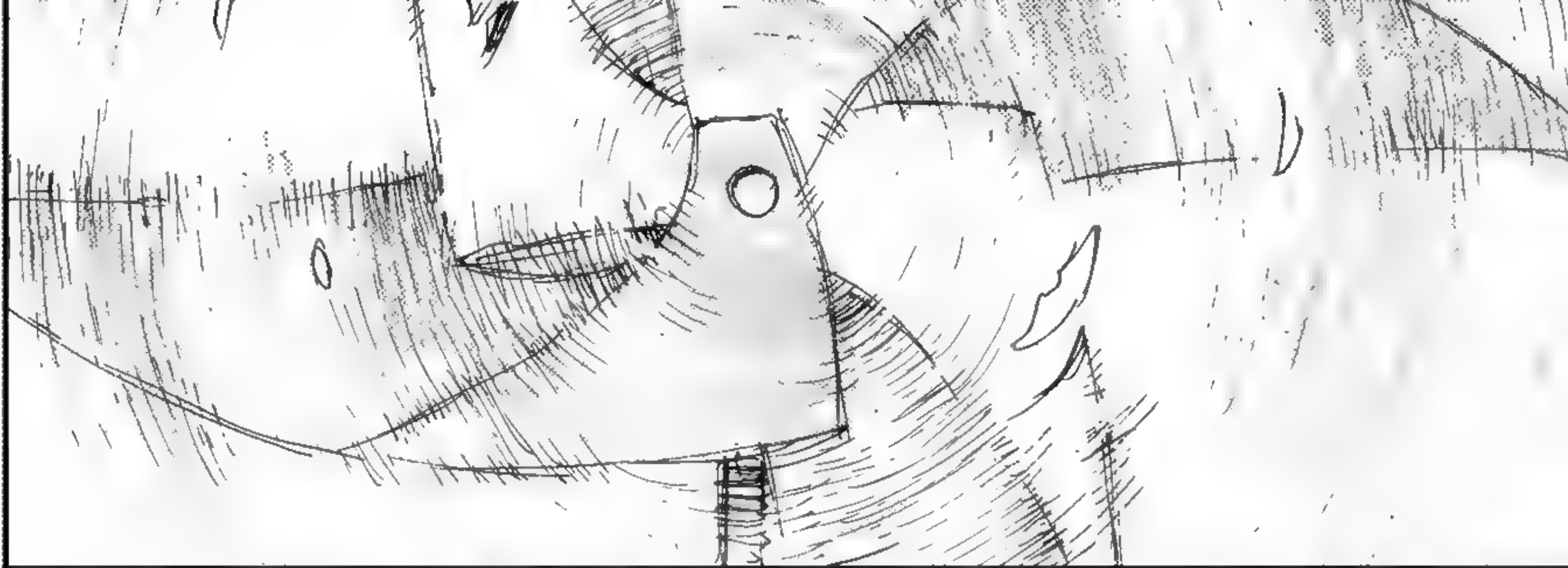




SFX:
chirp









フ

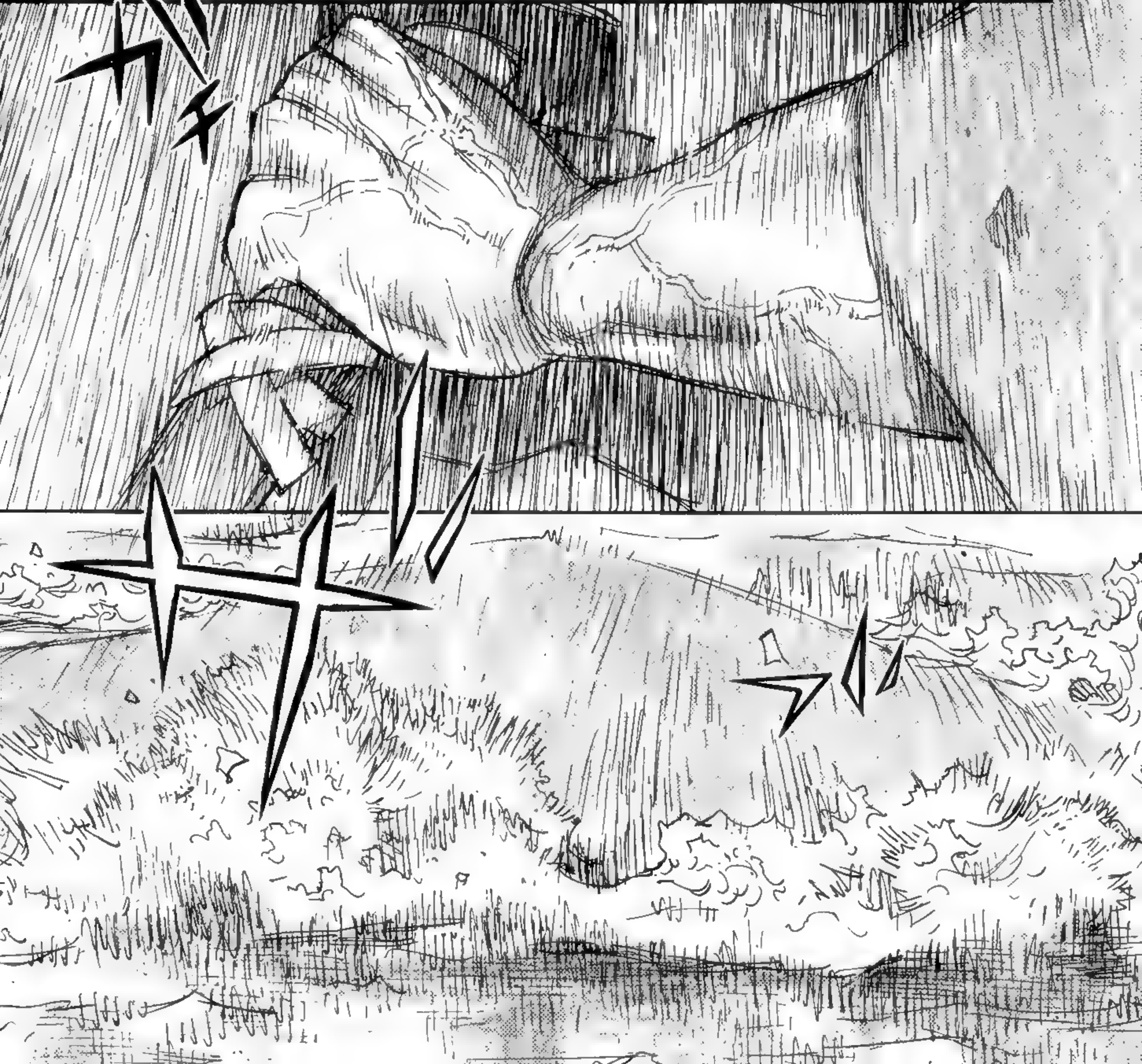
SFX: chirp,
flutter





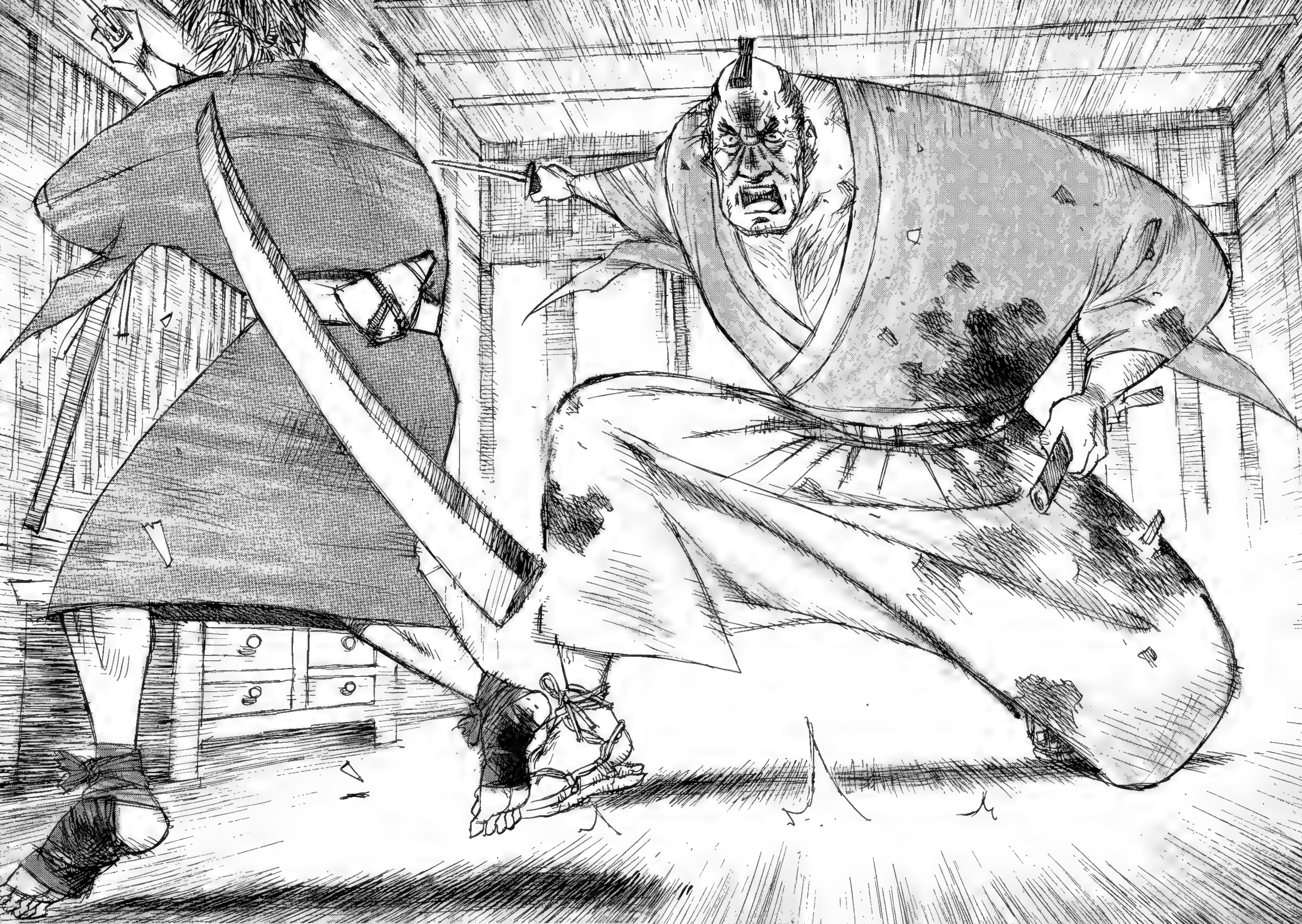


SFX:
grab,
grab,
crash

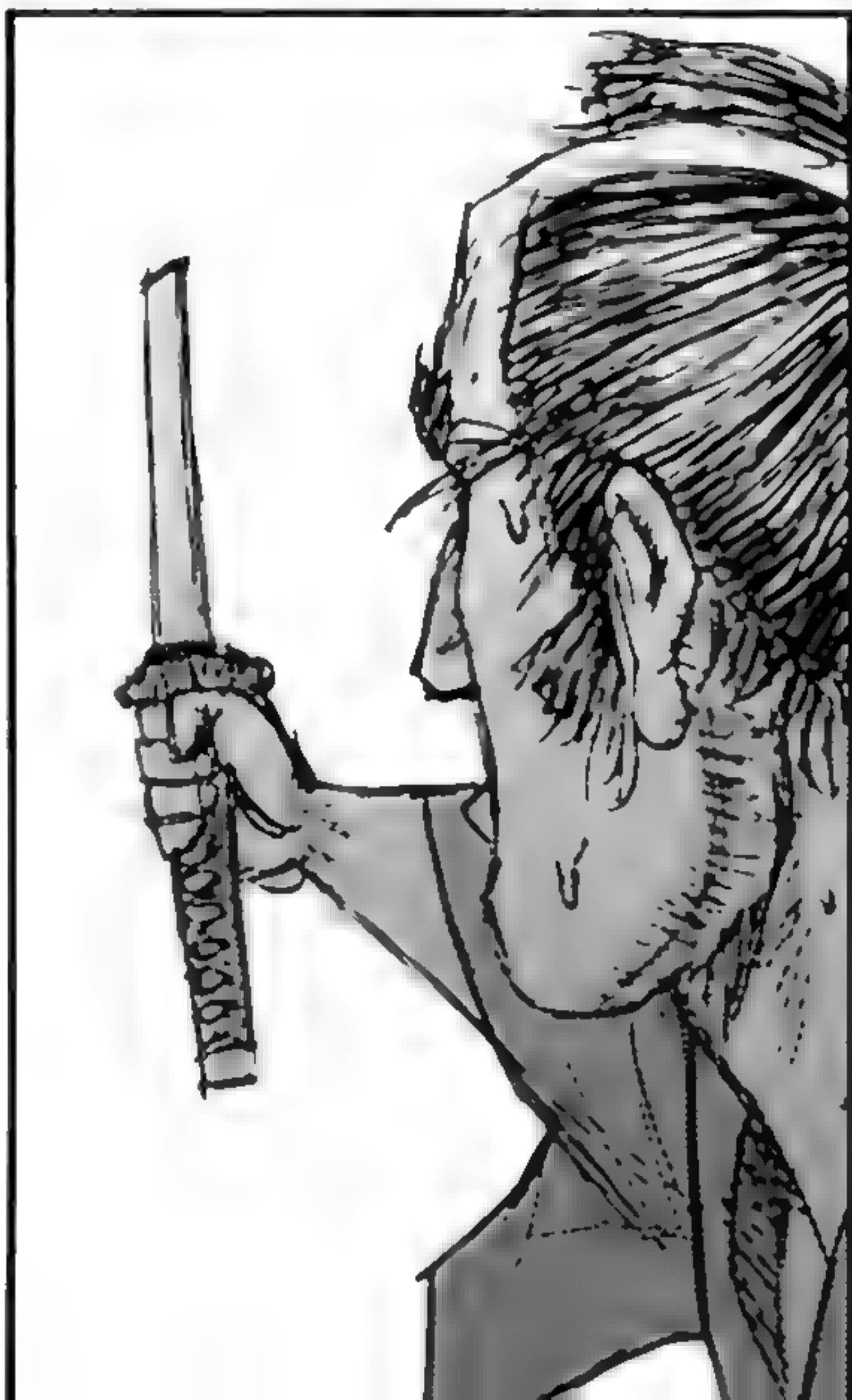








SFX:
bounce





I CAN'T
BELIEVE
IT...

TRULY
ONESELF
PERSON-
IFIED.

A BROKEN
BLADE...



HOW
BEFITTING
FOR IT TO
BE THE LAST
SWORD I
EVER HOLD.



WHAT A
CRAFTY
TRICK
YOU'VE
PULLED.

USHI-
GOROU,

SFX: grip













WHAT'S
THAT?

SFX:
thud

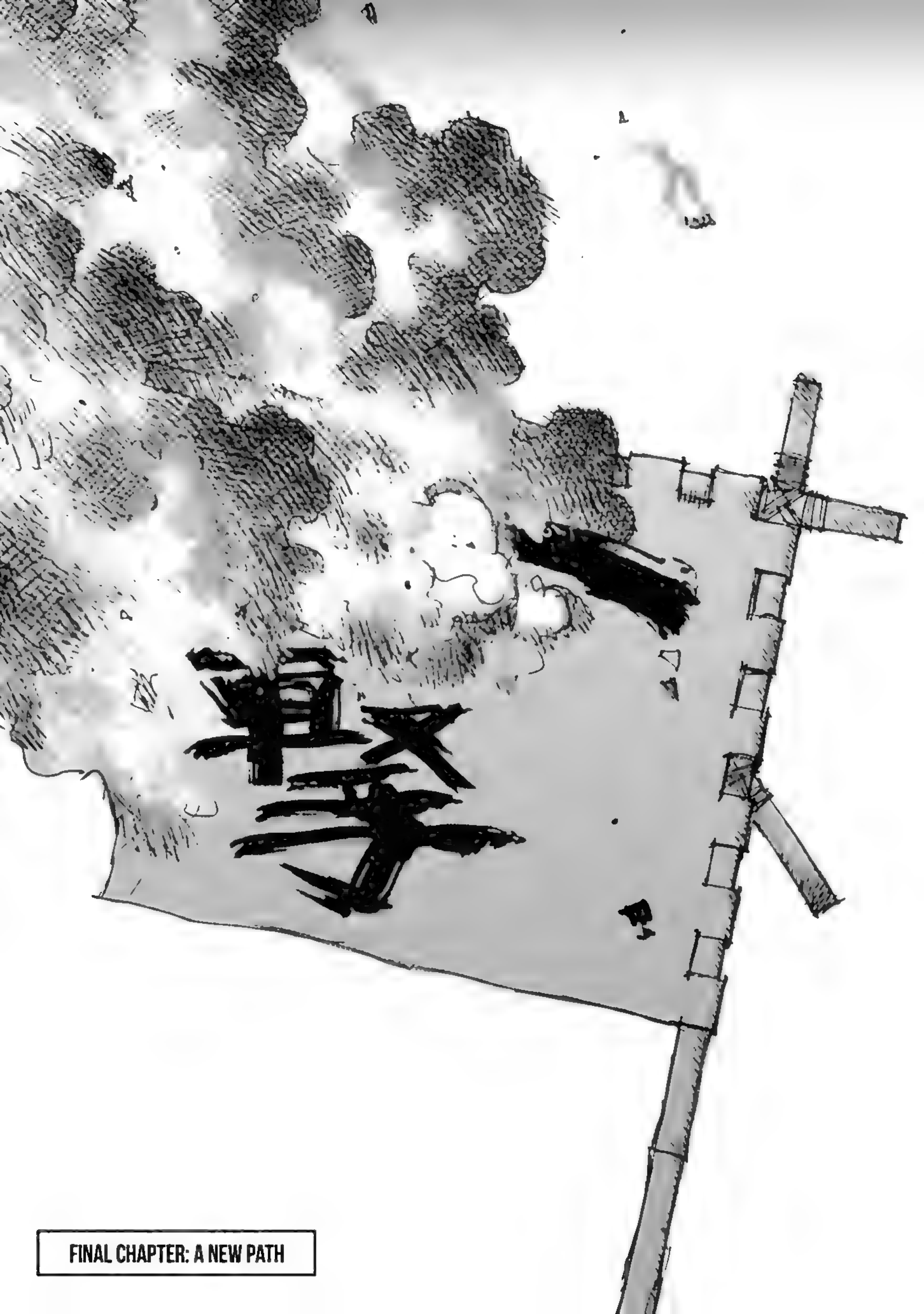


SFX:
roll



IMUTA...!!!







SFX:
bounce,
thump



SFX:
roll

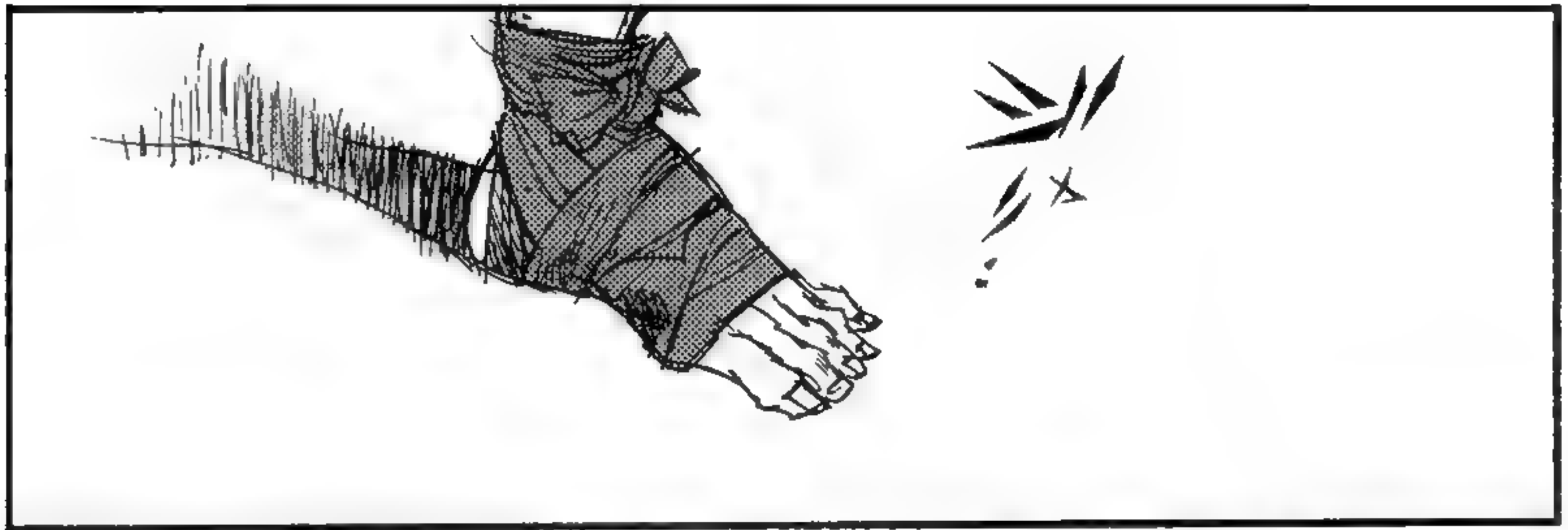
THAT'S...

TH...

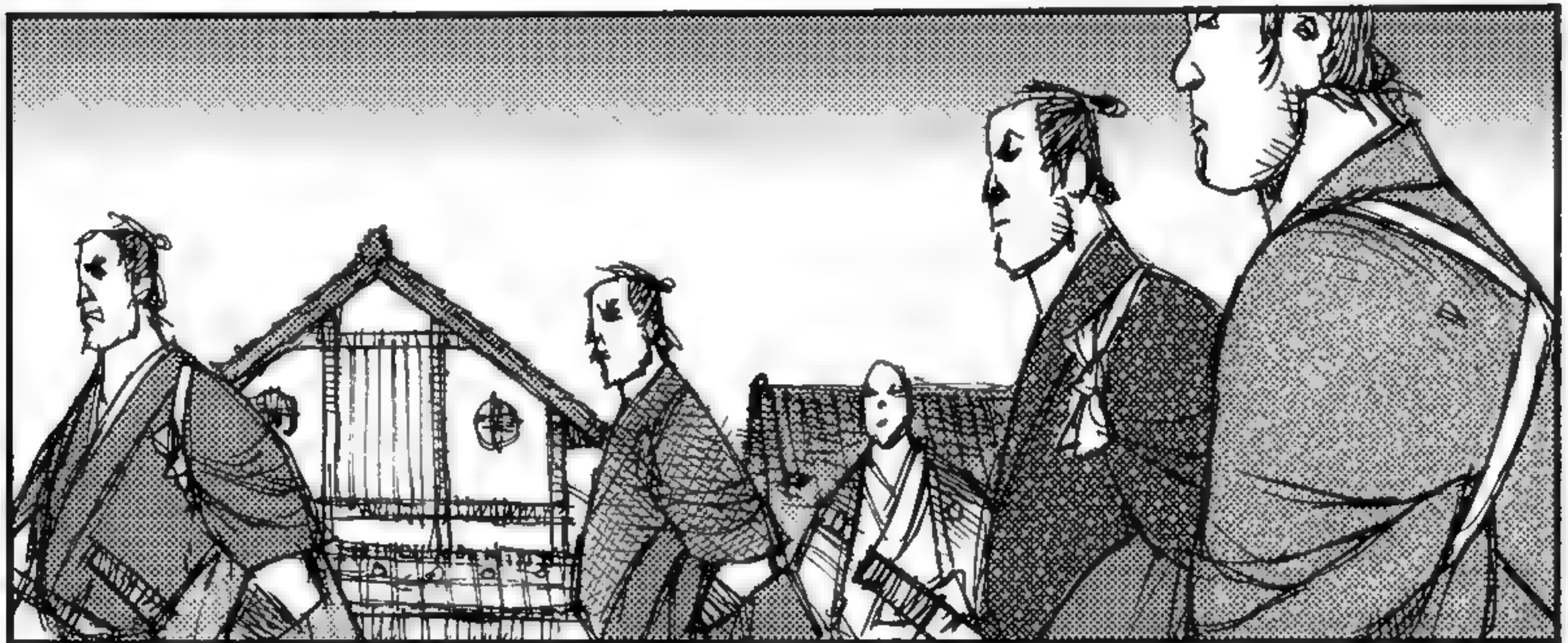
TH-

IMUTA...!

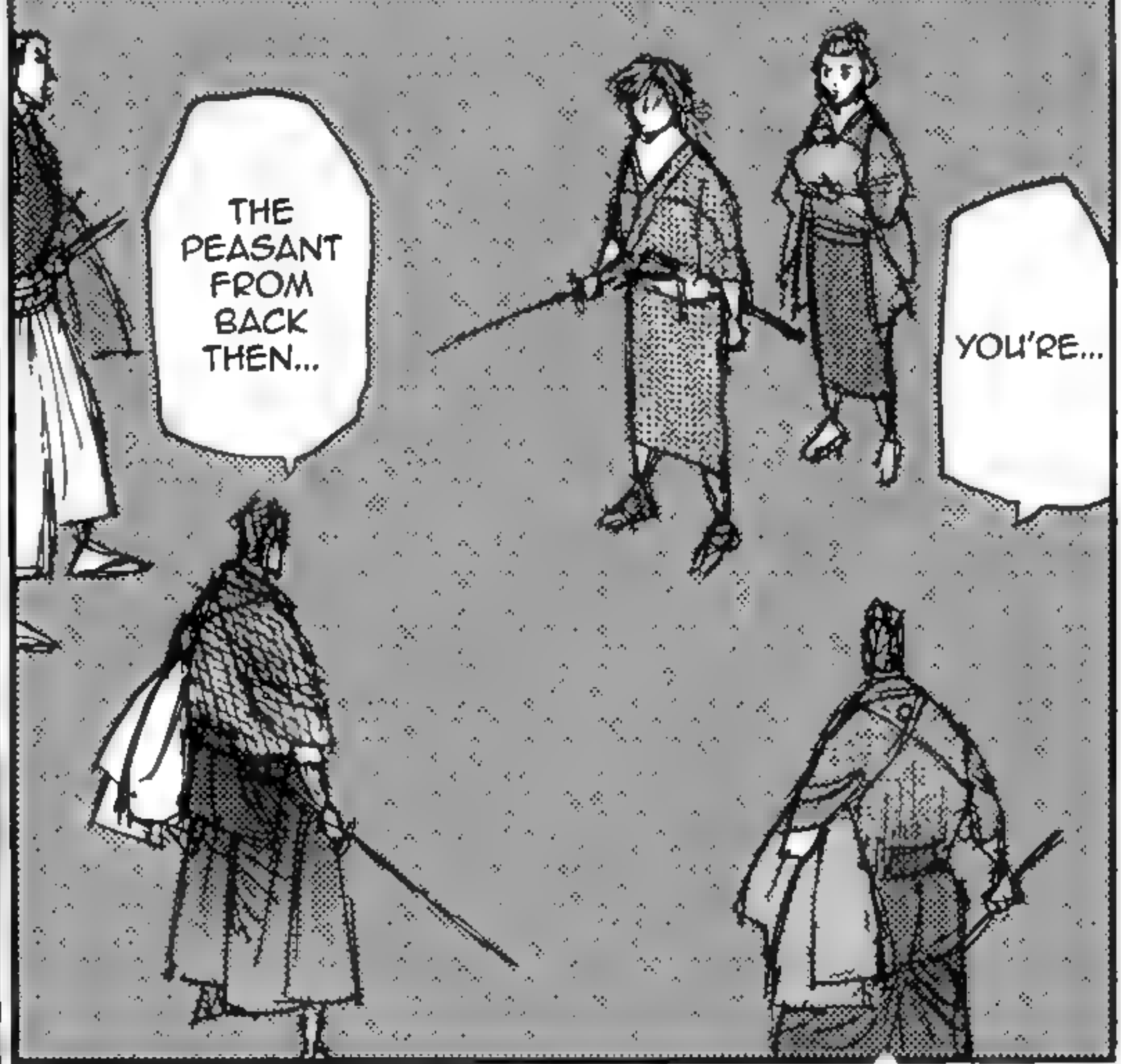




SFX:
crunch









GUERRILLA PEASANT!!!

SFX
grasp



SFX
grasp




MR.
USHI-
GODOU

STAY
BACK,
TOYO.







I'LL
SLAUGHTER
ALL YOU
SAMURAI
FUCKS!!

DON'T
FUCK WITH
PEASANTS!





BEHOLD!



**BUT
SIR...**

**WE'RE
NOT ON A
CLEAN UP
MISSION
HERE.**

SFX:
grab

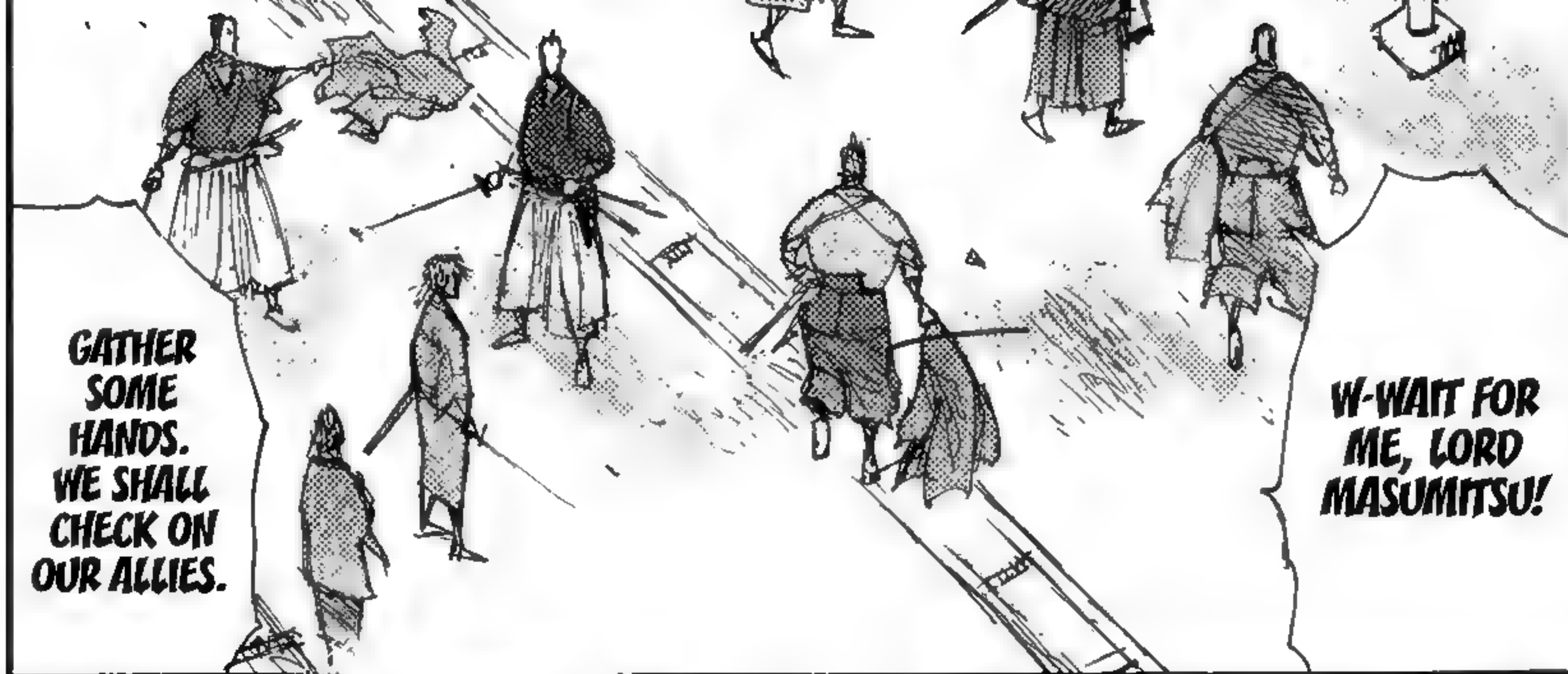
**THUS HE
WAS SLAIN
BY WE, THE
SUBJUGATION
SQUAD!**

**WARRIOR
SHOHEI IMUTA,
A BRUTE WHO
HAS SULLIED
THE NAME OF
THE SATSUMA
DOMAIN WITH
HIS SELF-
INTERESTED
ACTS OF
BARBARIY!**



KILL HIM
IF YOU
WISH, IT IS
OF LITTLE
CONCERN
TO ME.





**GATHER
SOME
HANDS.
WE SHALL
CHECK ON
OUR ALLIES.**

**W-WAIT FOR
ME, LORD
MASUMITSU!**



**DON'T
THINK IT'LL
BE THE SAME,
NEXT TIME
WE MEET.**

Clack

**IT'S
YOUR
LUCKY
DAY,
PEASANT.**



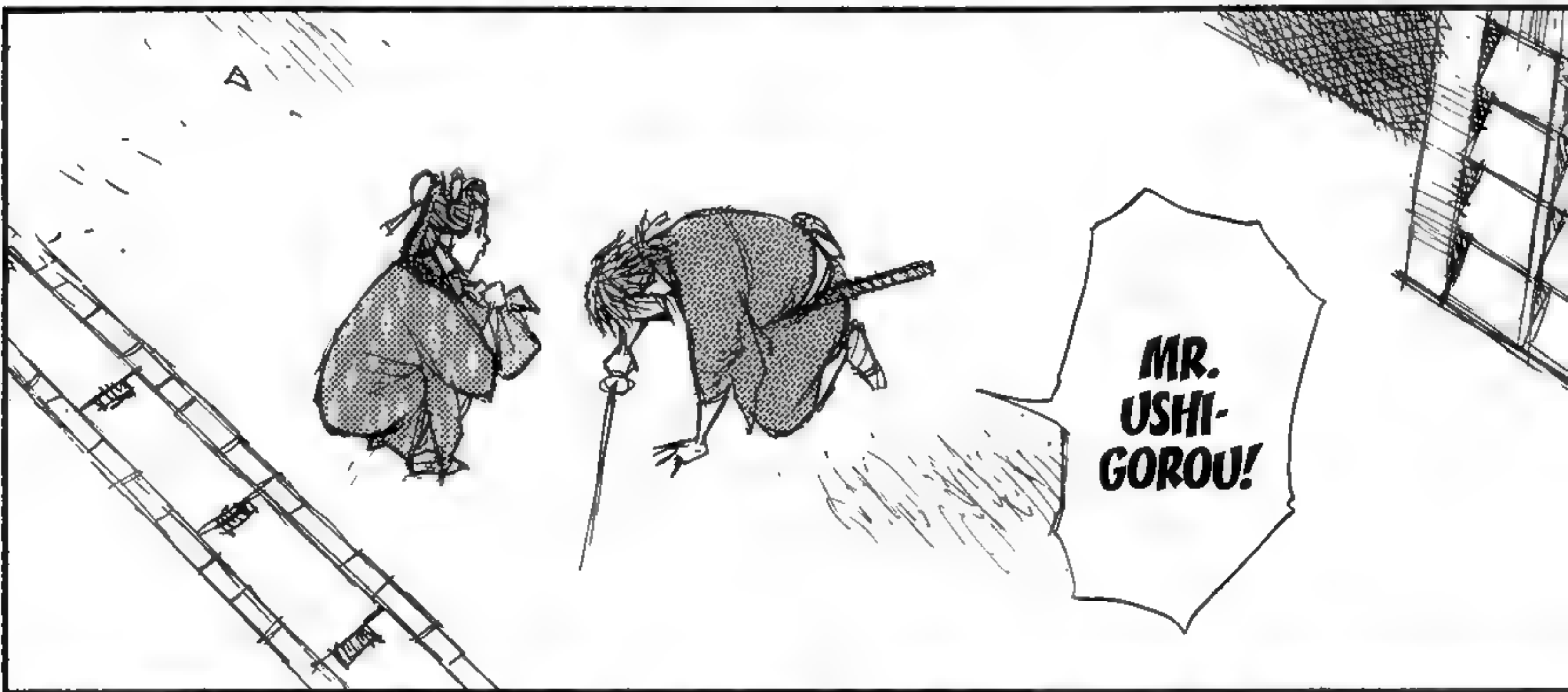
**MR.
USHI-
GOROU!**

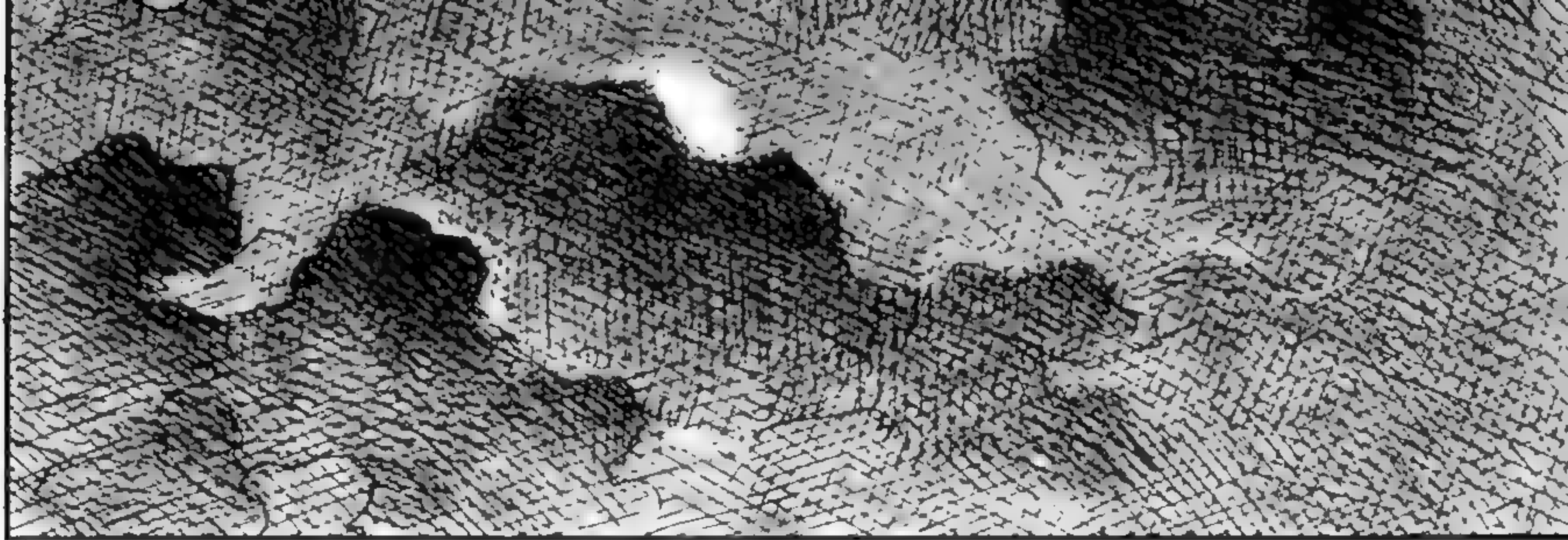


**I'LL LEND
A HAND!**

**SFX:
crunch**

SFX:
stagger







I'D LIKE
YOU TO
HAVE IT.

MIGHT BE
'CUS I'VE HELD
ONTO IT LIKE
A GOOD LUCK
CHARM, BUT I'M
STILL ALIVE.



IT'S
NATURAL
THAT A
WOMAN'S
EFFECTS
GO TO A
WOMAN.



BELONG TO
YOUR DEAR
SISTER?

DIDN'T
THIS...



I'M...
I JUST
DON'T GET
WOMEN'S
FASHION...

**DON'T BE
STUPID!**

IF TIMES
GET TOUGH,
YOU CAN
EVEN PAWN IT
FOR CASH.





BUT,
I CAN'T
LEAVE
JUST
YET...

YEAH...
I CAN
TELL.



WHEN
WILL IT BE
SETTLED?

THIS HAS
TO END
ONE DAY,
RIGHT?



I DON'T WANT
YOU TO GET
WRAPPED UP
IN THIS LIKE
CHIYO DID...

THINGS
STILL
HAVEN'T
BEEN
SETTLED.

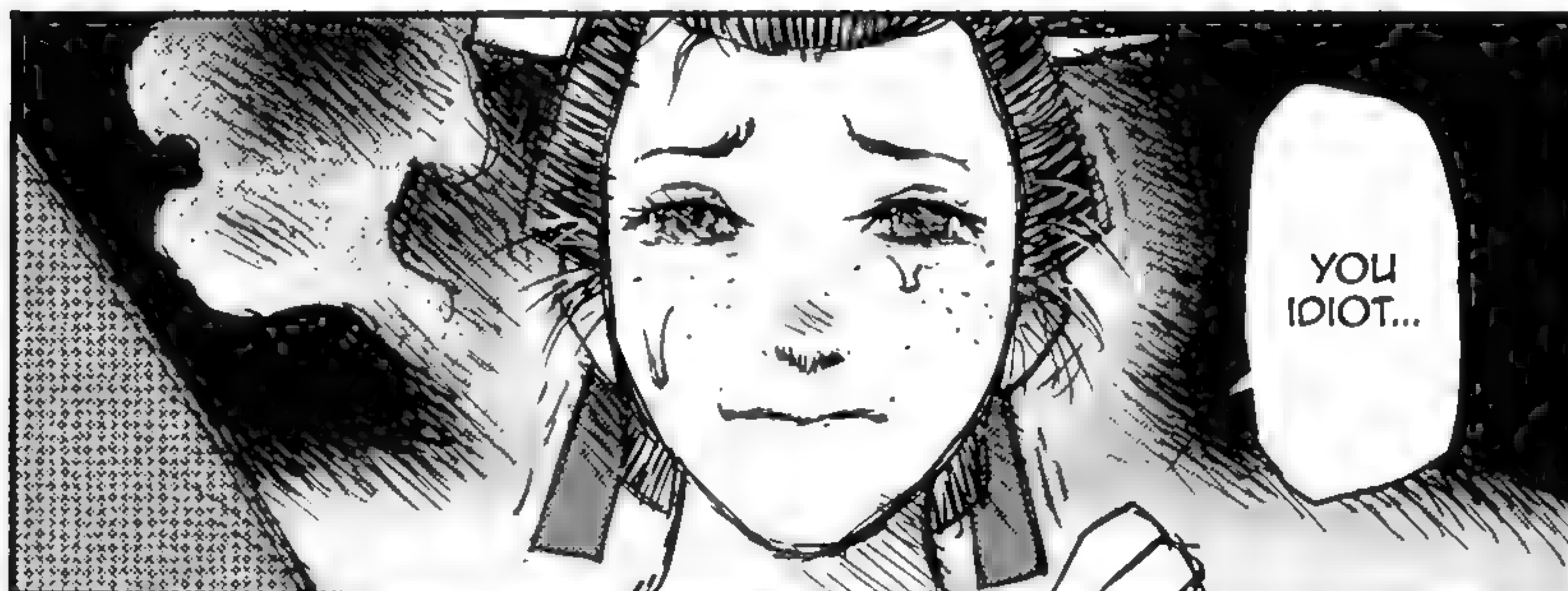


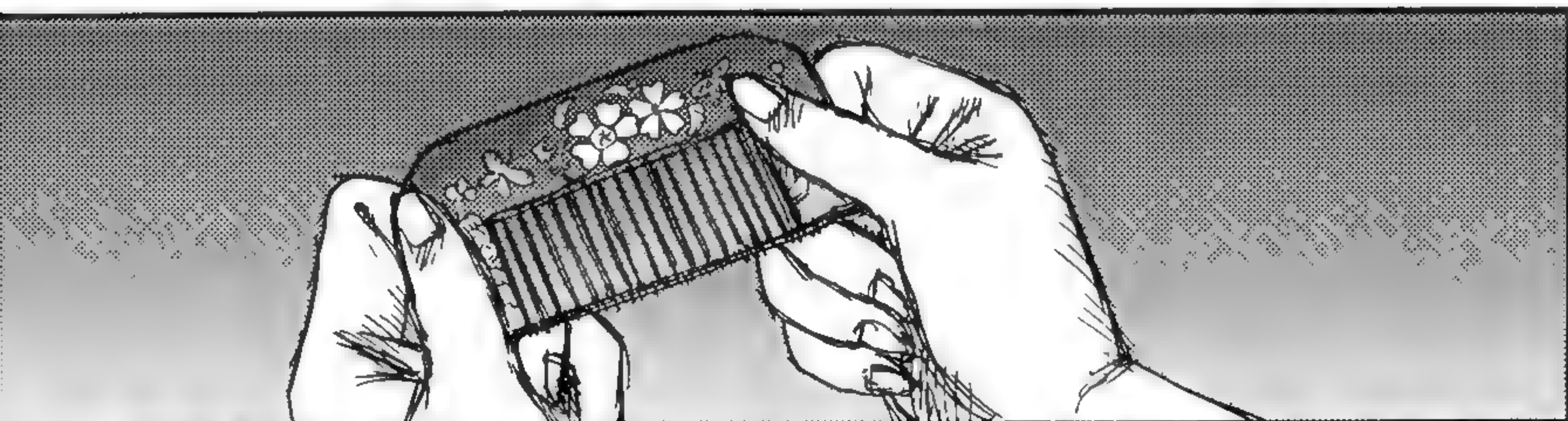
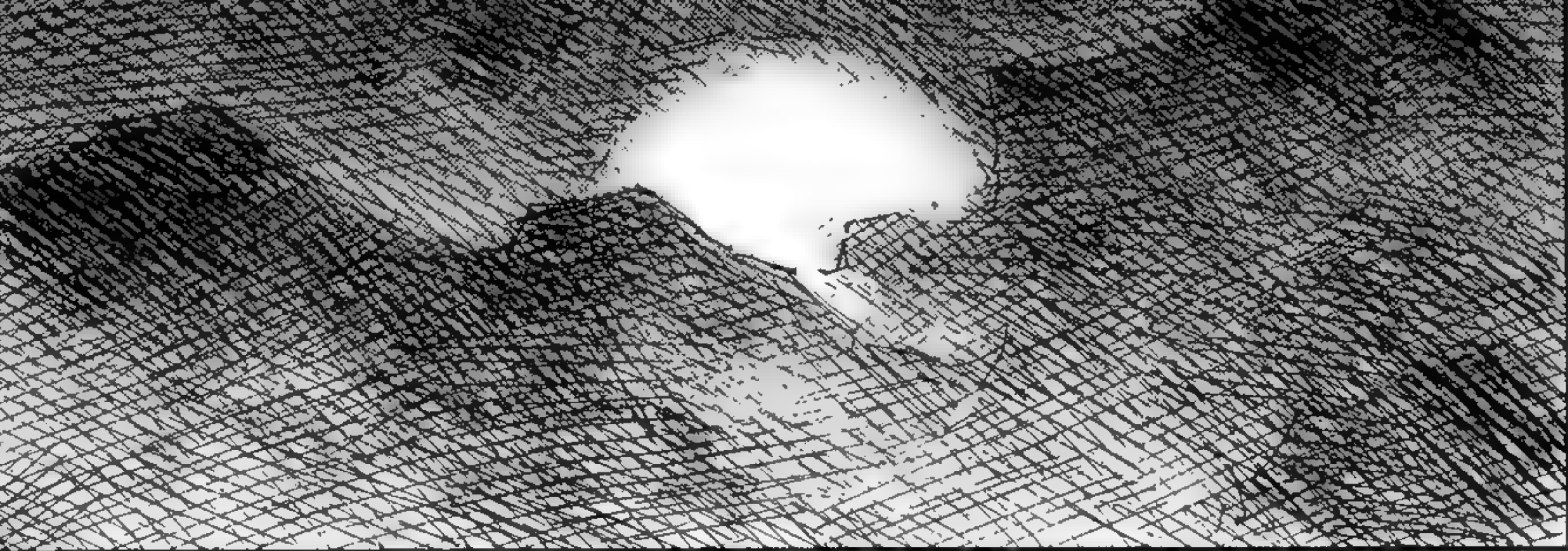
AND
WHEN
YOU'RE
DONE,
COME
GET ME.

THEN,
I'LL BE
WAITIN'...



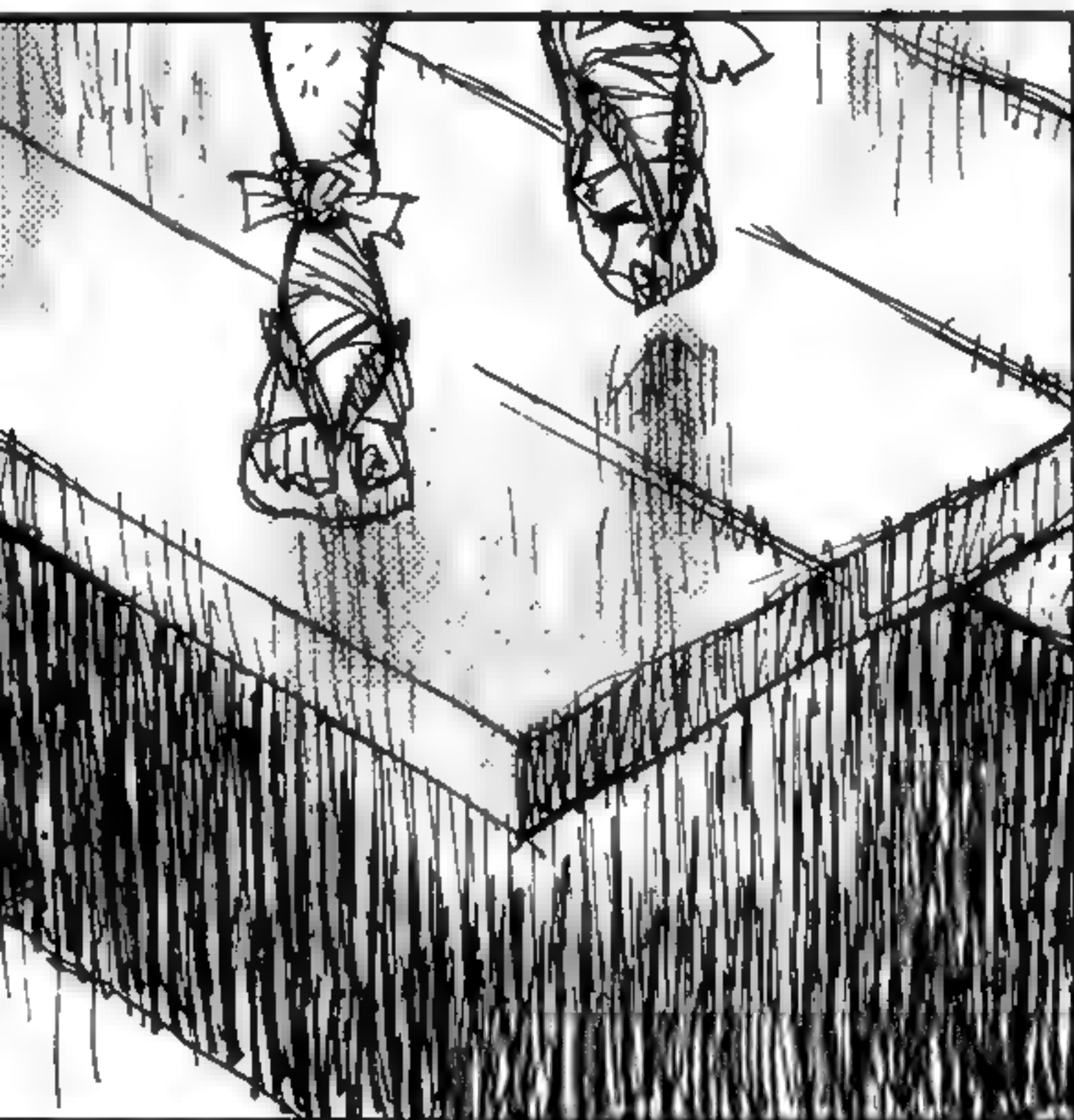
YEAH...
MAYBE
ONE DAY...







SFX:
creak,
groan



The
reeeeason~

my
haaair's
a mess~

is the
faaault
of~

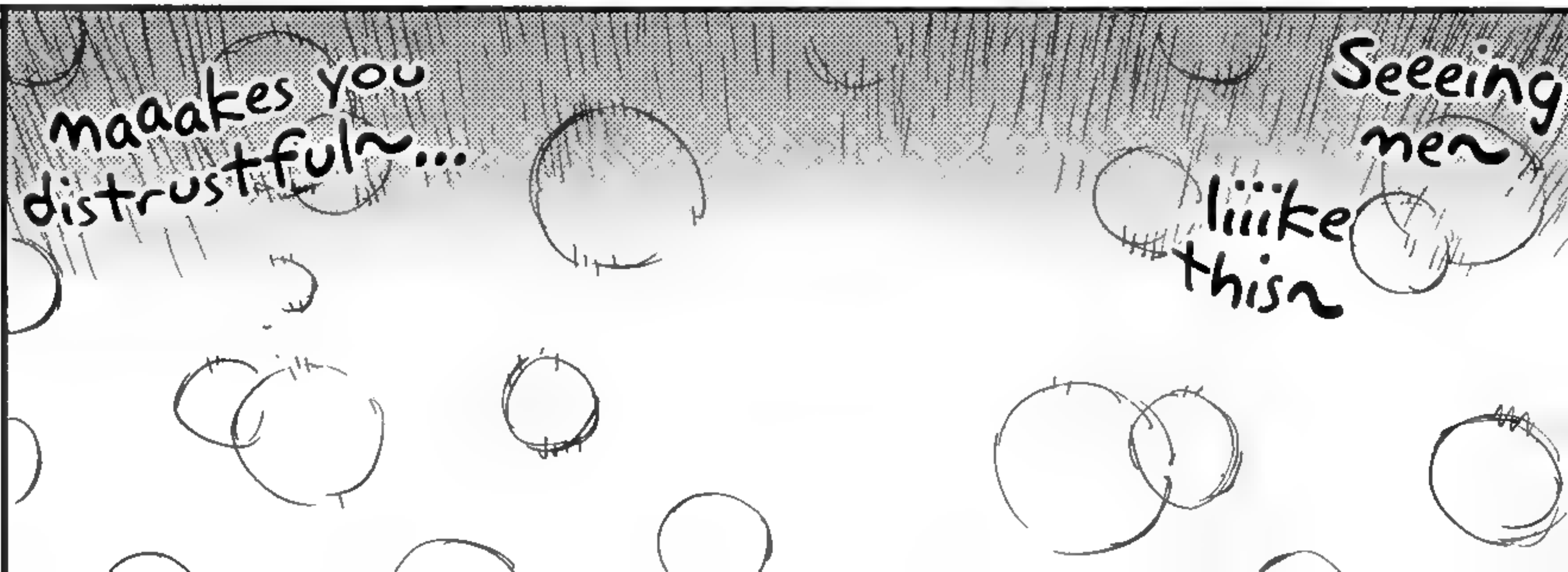
the
Pilloooooow~...



maaakes you
distrustful~...

Seeeing
nen~

liike
this~



SFX:
downpour





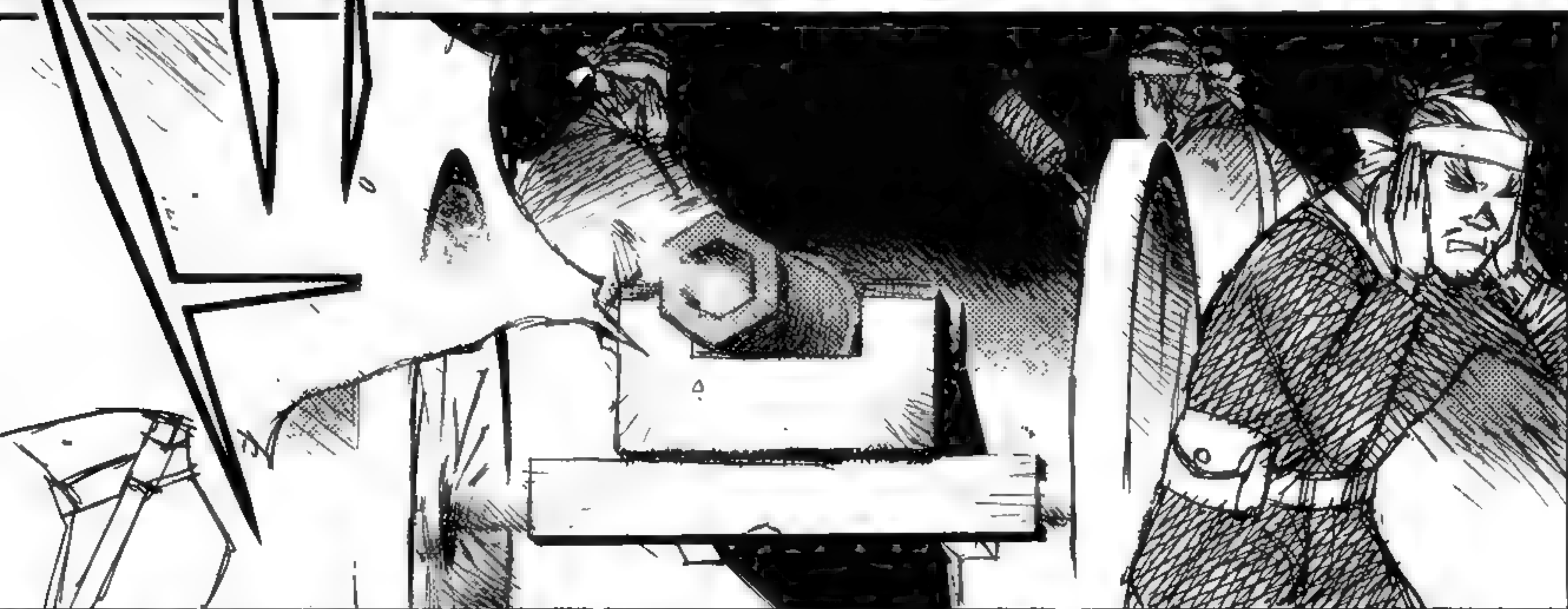
SFX:
slash



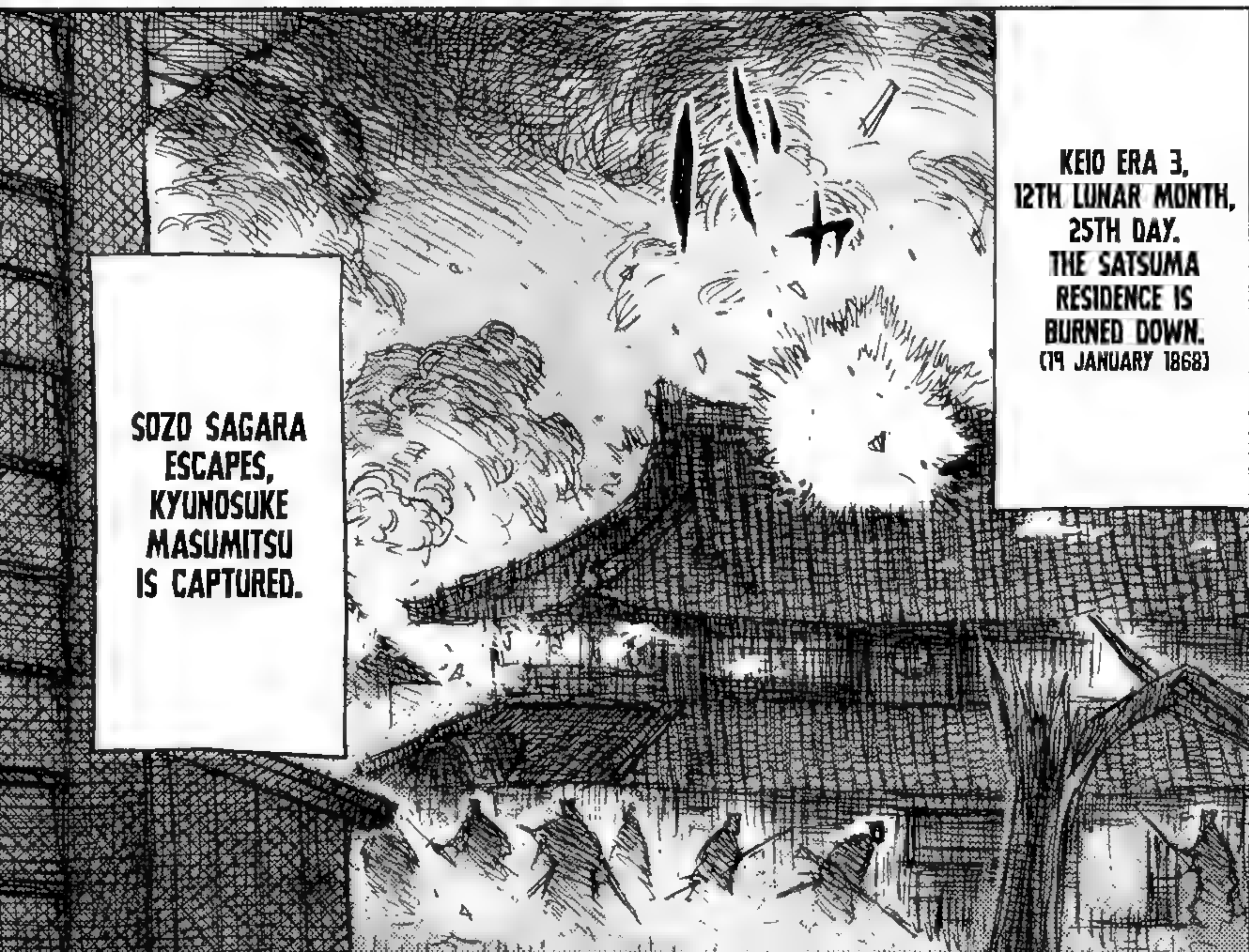
SFX:
whack



SFX:
slash x2




SFX:
BOOM



**SOZO SAGARA
ESCAPES,
KYUNOSUKE
MASUMITSU
IS CAPTURED.**


**KEIO ERA 3,
12TH LUNAR MONTH,
25TH DAY.
THE SATSUMA
RESIDENCE IS
BURNED DOWN.
(19 JANUARY 1868)**

SFX:
crash



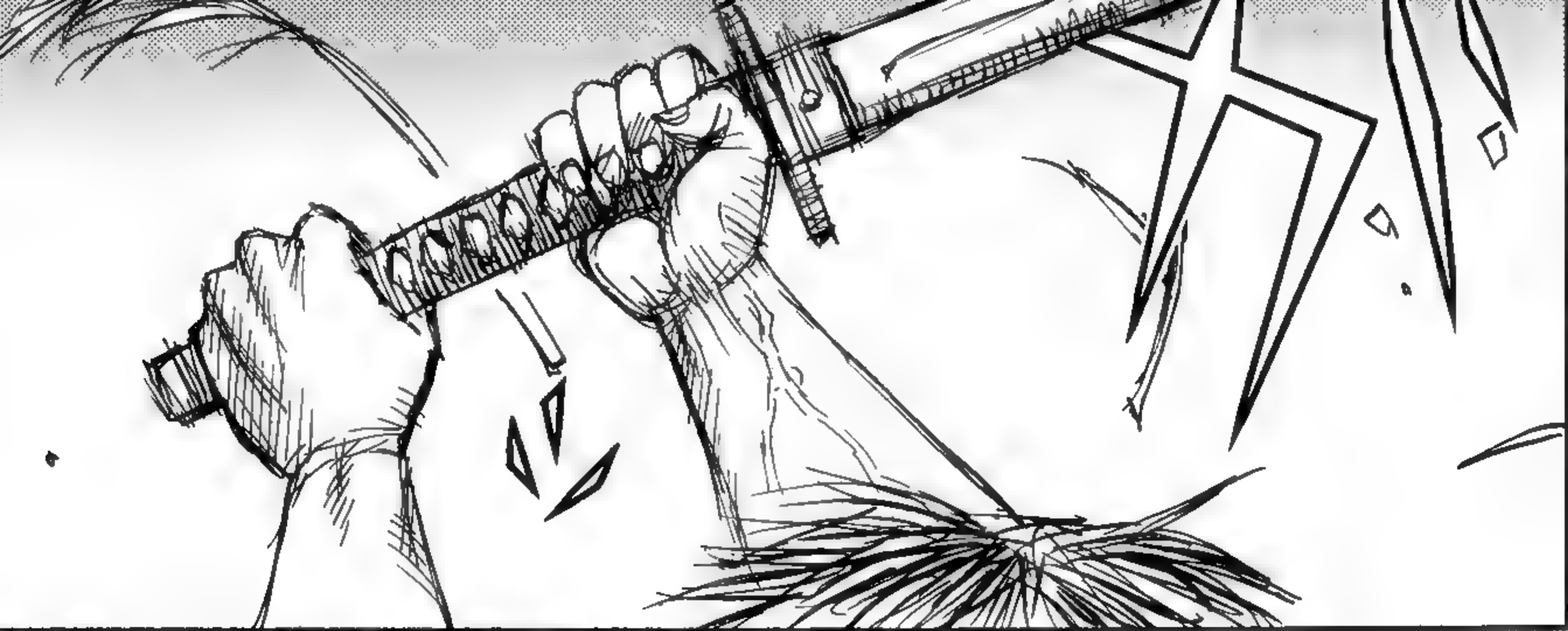
**FRICITION
BLAZES BETWEEN
THE PRO- AND
ANTI-SHOGUNATE
FACTIONS.**

**FOLLOWING
FROM THIS
INCIDENT,**



**KEIO ERA 4,
1ST LUNAR
MONTH,
3RD DAY.
THE BATTLE OF
TOBA-FUSHIMI.
(27 JANUARY 1868)**

**THE
BOSHIN
WAR
BREAKS
OUT.**



SFX:
whack



THE JAPANESE
EXPERIENCE
THEIR FIRST
ALL-OUT WAR
WITH MODERN
WEAPONRY.

FROM SWORDS,
SPEARS, AND
MATCHLOCKS TO
MINIÉ RIFLES AND
ARMSTRONG GUNS,
THE TIMES CHANGE.



PANT

PANT

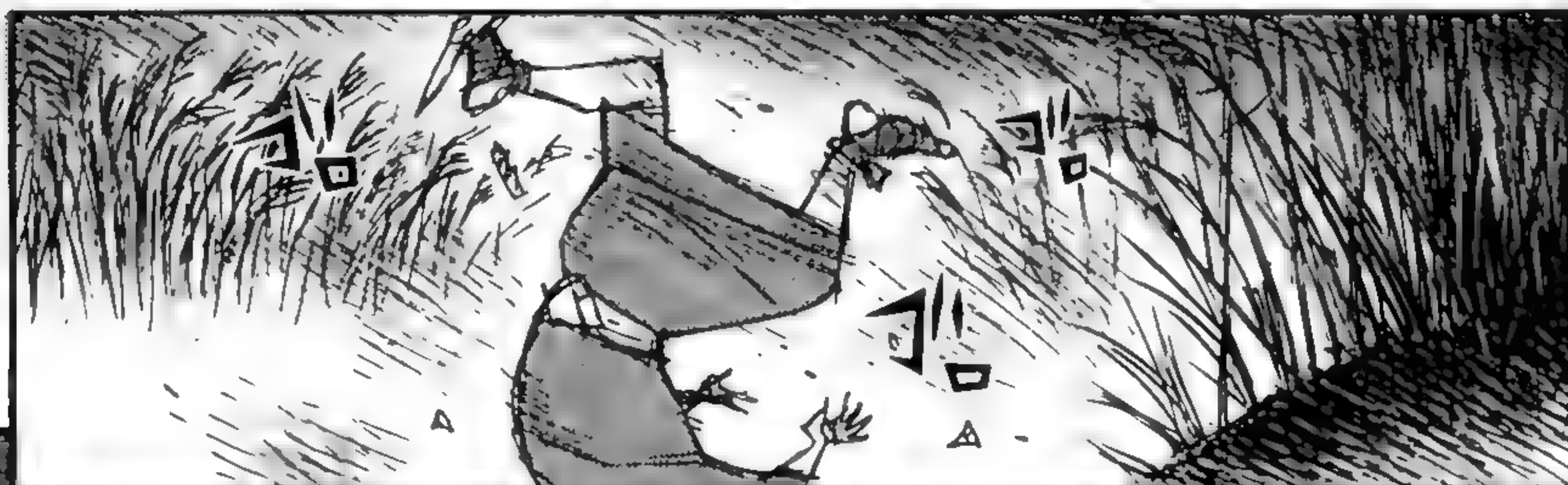
PANT



**TAKES DECISIVE
ACTION ALONGSIDE
KYUNOSUKE
MAEMITSU TO
BREAK THE ENEMY
LINE ONCE AND
FOR ALL.**

SFX:
march

**SAME YEAR,
3RD LUNAR MONTH,
9TH DAY. TETSUTARO
YAMADKA, WITH
KAISHU KATSU'S
LETTER TO SAIGO
IN HAND,
(2 APRIL 1868)**



SFX:
roll x3

**A DISCUSSION
BETWEEN KAISHU
KATSU AND
TAKAMORI SAIGO
IS REALISED AT THE
SASSHU RESIDENCE
IN TAKANAWA.
(7 APRIL 1868)**

**SAME YEAR,
3RD LUNAR
MONTH,
14TH DAY.
AS A RESULT
OF YAMADKA'S
PREPARATIONS,**





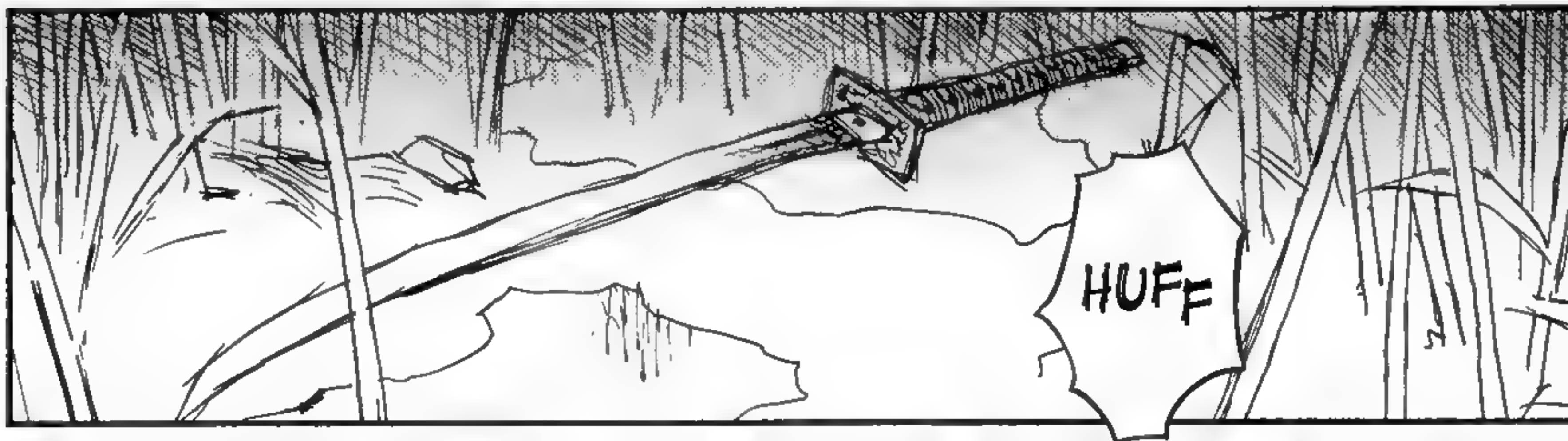
NO LONGER
CONSIDERED KATSU'S
PROPOSED SCORCHED
EARTH TACTICS AS
A PIPE DREAM, BUT
A FORMIDABLE
THREAT.

IT WAS CLEAR THAT
SAIGO, WHO WAS
ACQUAINTED WITH
THE RESULTS OF THE
RAPIDLY-DEVELOPED
ONE STRIKE ONE
KILL SQUAD,



ULTIMATELY
DISSUADING
THE TAKEOVER
OF EDO.

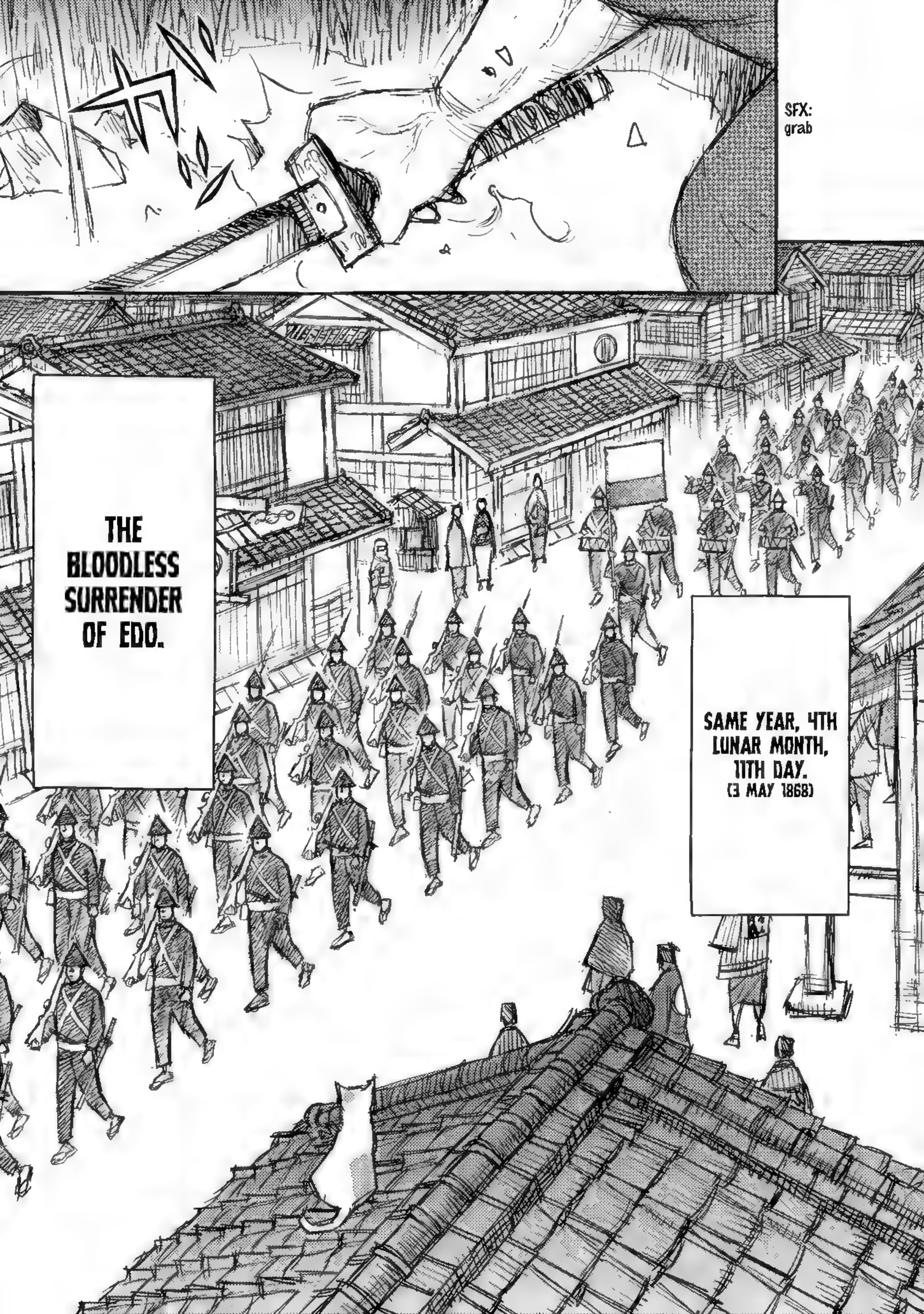
USING THIS AS
HIS TRUMP CARD,
KATSU PRESSED
FORWARD WITH
NEGOTIATIONS...

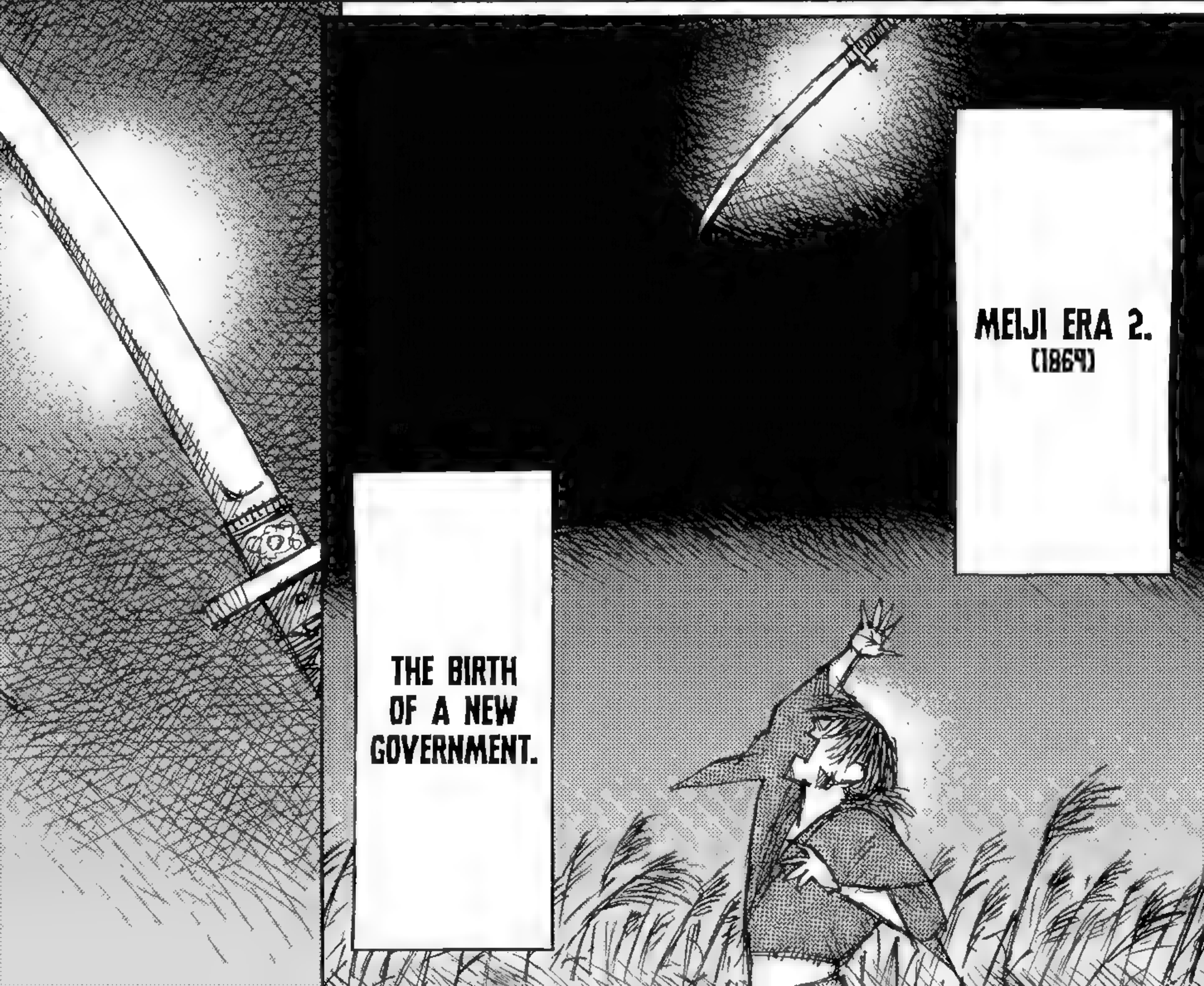
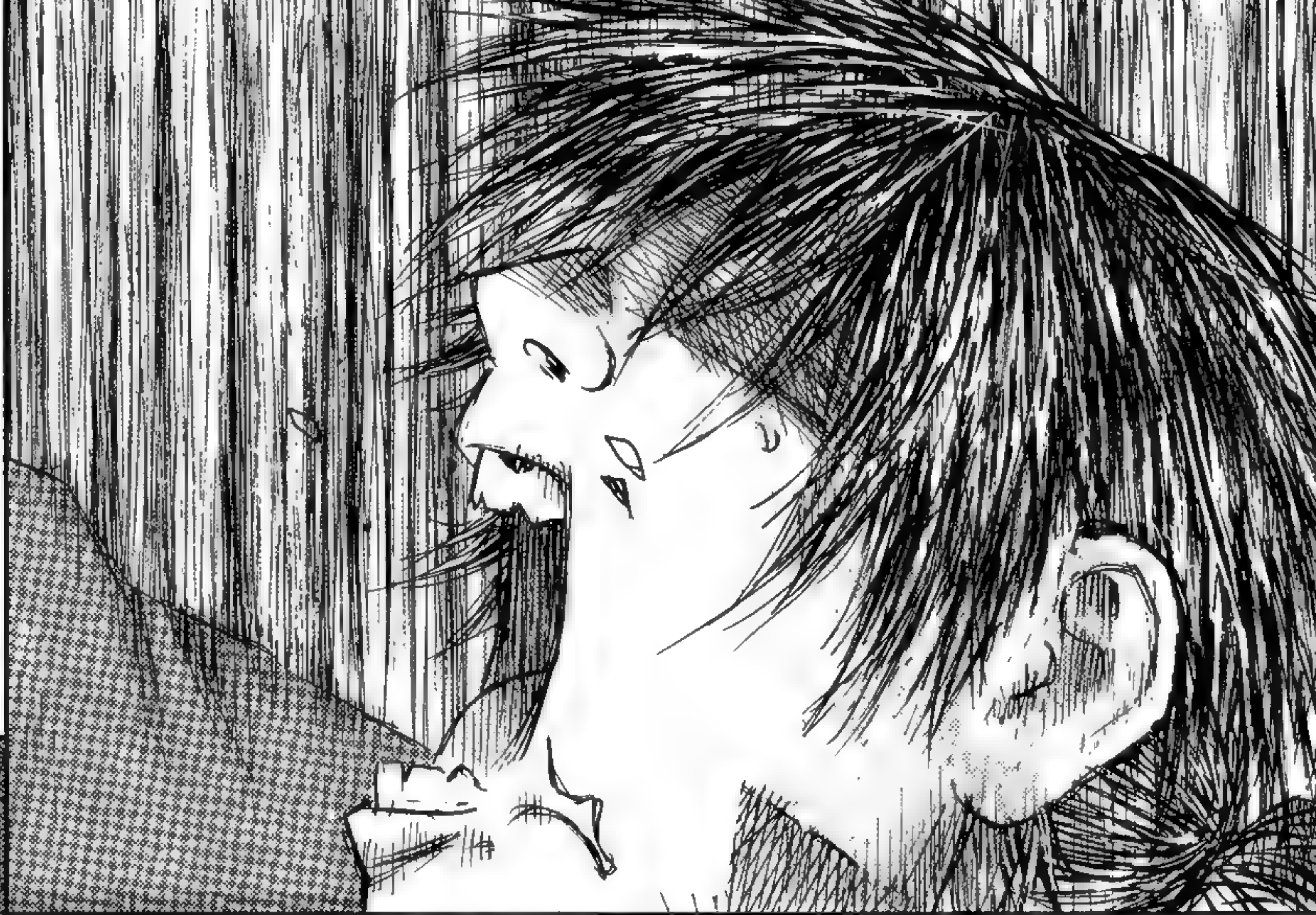


SFX:
grab

**THE
BLOODLESS
SURRENDER
OF EDO.**

**SAME YEAR, 4TH
LUNAR MONTH,
11TH DAY.
(3 MAY 1868)**






MEIJI ERA 2.
(1869)

**THE BIRTH
OF A NEW
GOVERNMENT.**



**THE FOUR
OCCUPATIONS
CASTE
SYSTEM...**

**COMES TO
AN END.**



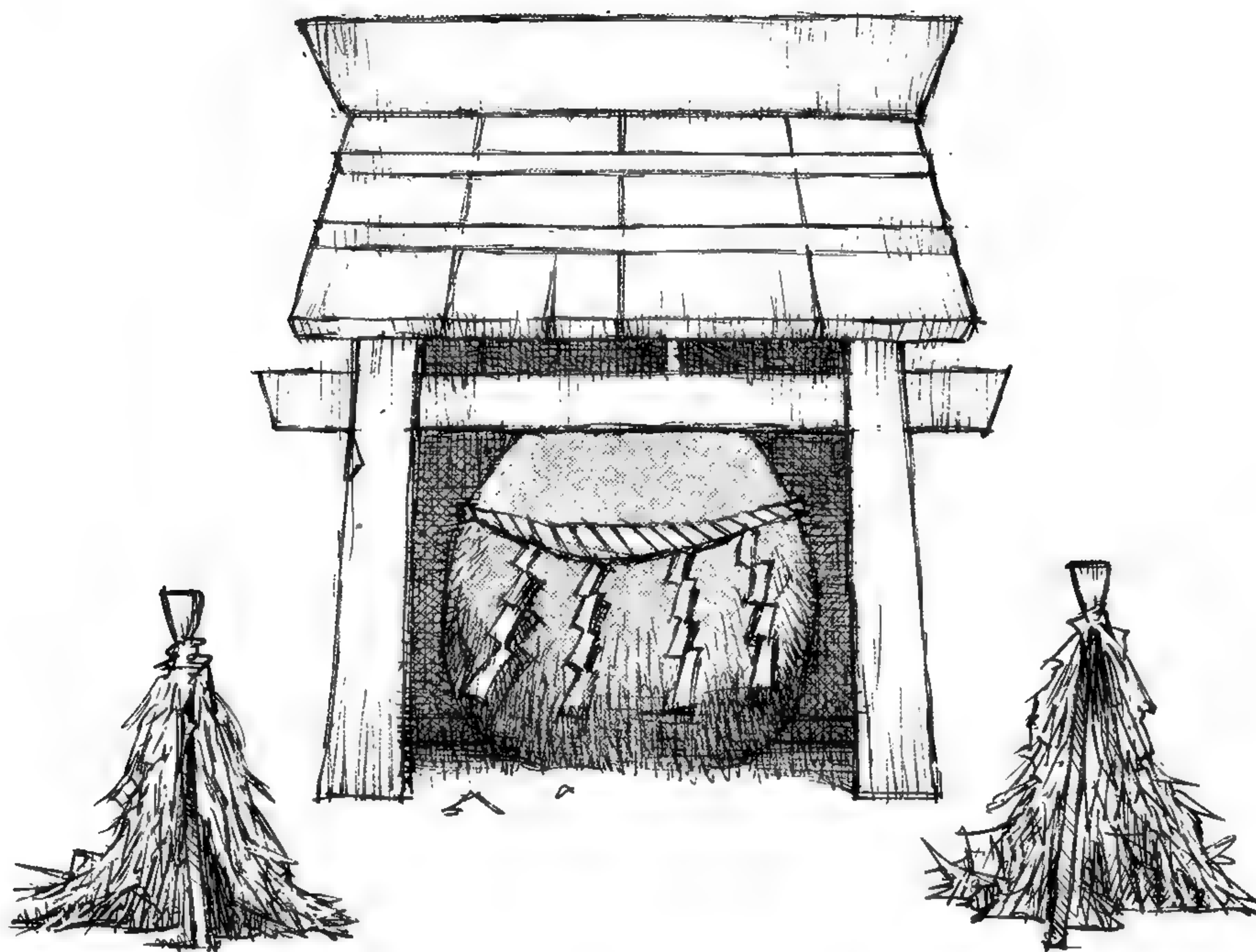
**THE STORY OF
HOW THE MILLION
TOWNSPEOPLE OF EDO
WERE SPARED FROM
THE FLAMES OF INTERNAL
WAR COULD NOT HAVE
BEEN TOLD WITHOUT THE
COVERT EFFORTS OF THE
ONE STRIKE ONE KILL
SQUAD...**

**UNBEKNOWNST TO
THE PEASANTS OF
WHOM THE SQUAD
WAS COMPRISED,
IT WOULD BE SWEEPED
AWAY INTO THE
SANDS OF TIME.**

THE CURRENT
WHEREABOUTS OF
THIS LIFTING STONE
LIE UNKNOWN.
MOREOVER, IT IS NOT
EVEN CERTAIN WHETHER
THIS USHIGOROU IS THE
SAME ONE AS THAT
OF THE ONE STRIKE
ONE KILL SQUAD.

IT SEEMS IN
MEIJI ERA 4 (1871),
A MAN BY THE NAME OF
USHIGOROU HAD HOISTED
A LIFTING STONE WEIGHING
55 KAN (OVER 206 KG)
OVER HIS SHOULDERS.

UP UNTIL
THE PACIFIC WAR,
THERE WAS RUMOURED
TO BE A LIFTING STONE
WITH THE WORDS
"USHIGOROU, HERE DOTH
FIFTY AND FIVE KAN
MEIJI XIN WEI"
CARVED UPON IT.



SFX:
cock-a-
doodle-doo,
grip


SPECIAL COMPILATION:
AKUSEKI ISLAND DIARY





SFX:
crickets
chirping





I... HIS
DAUGHTER,
TSUNA,
WILL TAKE
SIR IMUTA
FISHIN'.

F-FATHER'S...
YASUKE'S NOT
FEELIN' WELL.
HE WON'T BE
COMIN' TODAY.



THE OLD
MAN'S
JUST GOT
A BIT OF
GOUT.

THERE
ARE
DAYS
WHEN IT
PAINS
HIM.

DON'T
WORRY!

IS HE
ALRIGHT?

I SEE...



**BE
QUICK!**

OKAY,
WAIT
THERE A
MINUTE.



**H-
HURRY UP
AND GET
READY!**

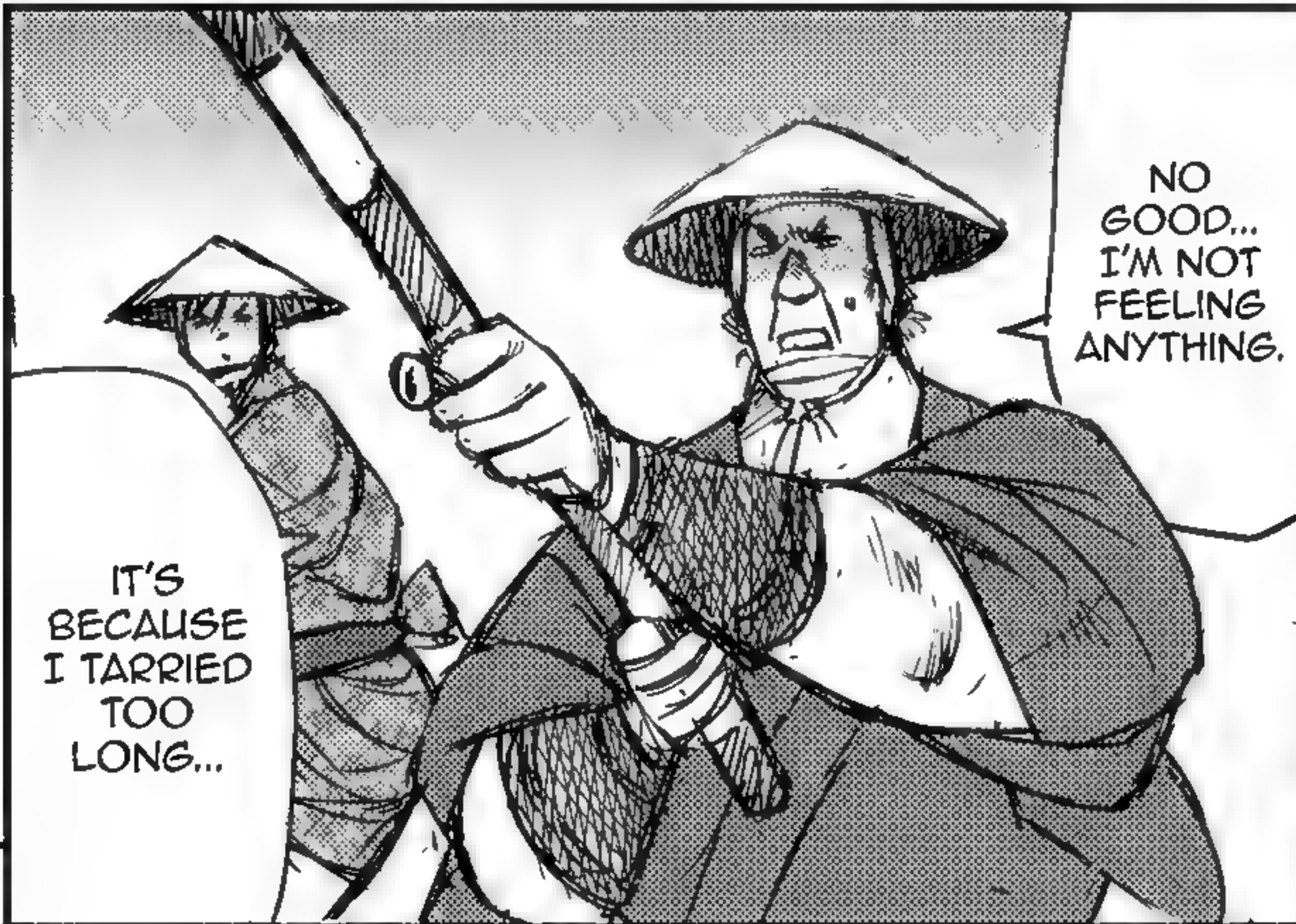
**WE'LL
MISS OUR
OPPORTUNITY
IF YOU TAKE
TOO LONG!**

**OPPORTUNITY
IS KEY WITH
MORNIN
FISHIN'!**

SFX:
slosh

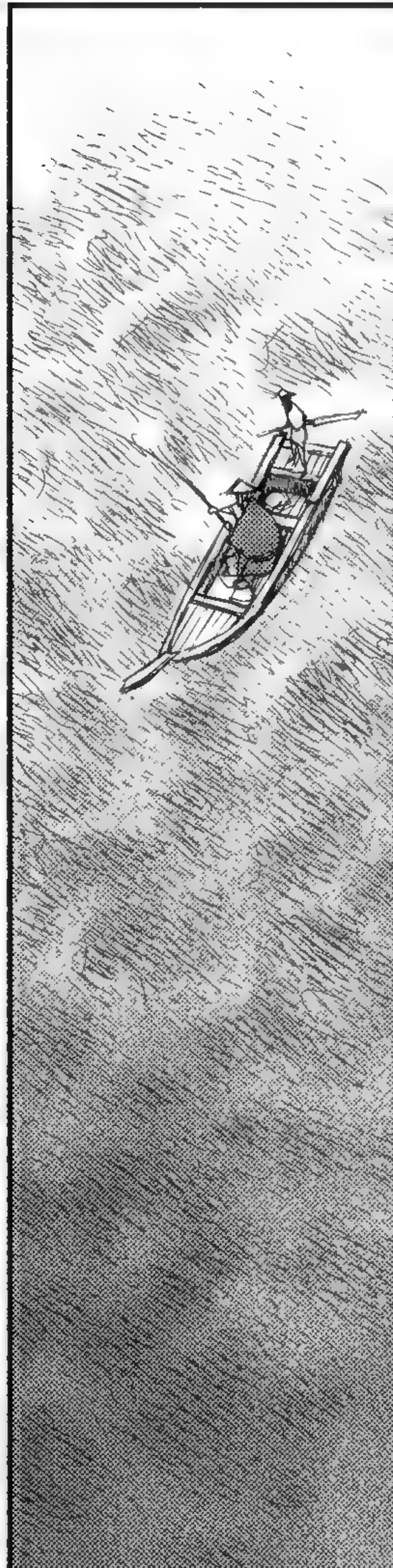


SFX:
creak



IT'S
BECAUSE
I TARRIED
TOO
LONG...

NO
GOOD...
I'M NOT
FEELING
ANYTHING.



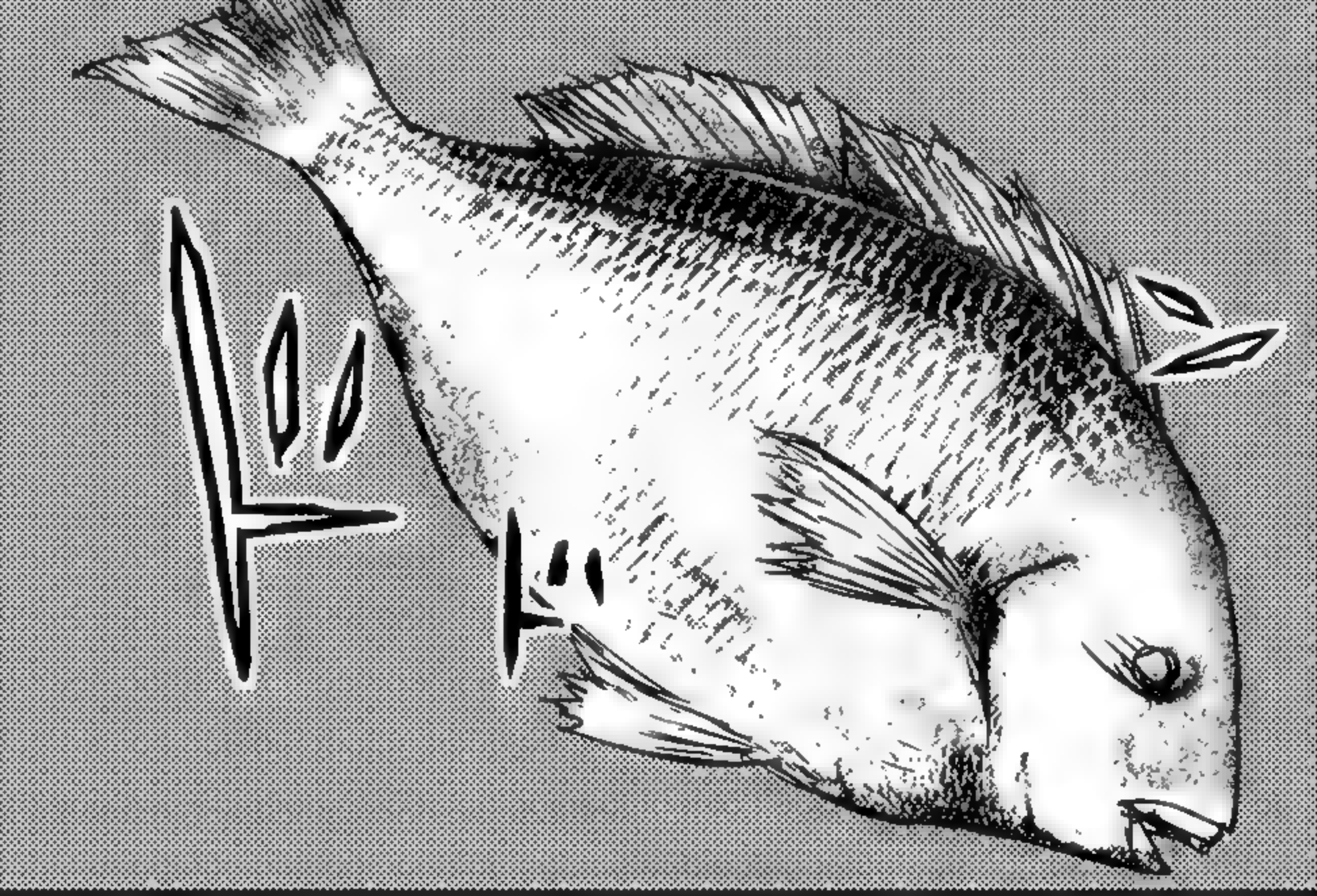
WE'LL TRY
ANOTHER
SPOT.

DON'T
GIVE UP.

I'VE
LET THE
OPPOR-
TUNITY
SLIP.

TSUNA,
IT'S AS
YOU SAID,





SFX:
ta-dah





I'VE ONLY ASKED FOR HELP WITH FISHING...

YOU WILL?



AND I'LL MAKE SOME FOR YOU.

IF... UH... IF YOU WANT, WE CAN GO TO SIR IMUTA'S PLACE...



OKAY, OKAY.

I'M TELLING YOU, I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO MAKE IT!

I-IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, IT'LL SMELL REALLY FISHY!



SFX:
bubble x3





THE RICE IS READY TOO.

HOO~ IT CERTAINLY LOOKS RATHER TASTY.



WE CAUGHT THIS FISH TOGETHER, DON'T BE SHY!

BUT...

SFX: munch x2



WE'LL POLISH THIS ALL OFF!


A GREAT START TO THE MORNING! HAHAA HA!



EH?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? GET YOURSELF A BOWL AS WELL, TSUNA.

GO ON.



FROM
NOW ON,
I'LL BE
TEACHIN'
SIR IMUTA
HOW TO
FISH.

TH-THE OLD
MAN'S GOIT'S
BAD, SO HE'LL
BE OUT FOR
SOME TIME.



**IT'S NOT
A BIG DEAL,
BUT HE'S STUCK
IN BED AND
CAN'T MOVE!**

WHAT
DOES
THAT
MEAN?

WHICH
IS IT?

NO...
IT'S NOT
BAD.

SO,
YASUKE'S
CONDI-
TION IS
SERIOUS?

WHAT...?

**THREE DAYS
BEFORE IMUTA
WAS CALLED
BACK.**

I-I
SEE...
THANK
YOU.

**ANYWAY,
I'LL BE
COMIN'
AGAIN TO-
MORROW!**

**THESE EVENTS
TOOK PLACE...**

ICHIGEKI

Fin

いちげき 7

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